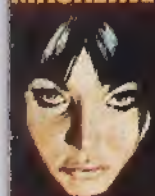


WARREN
MAGAZINE



VAMPI
#35

AUG. 1974

ALL NEW STORIES AND ART! PLUS **COLOR!**

VAMPIRELLA

SERIES B
POC
\$1.00

WHO WAS
THE HUNTER?
WHO WAS
THE VICTIM?
WHEN...
"THE NIGHT
RAN RED
WITH GORE!"

AND
VAMPIRELLA
FIGHTS
THE DUEL
OF HER
LIFE
AGAINST
"THE BLOOD
GULPER!"



RETAILERS: SEE PAGE 69 FOR DISPLAY ALLOWANCE PLAN



RENDEZVOUS



THE BLOOD-GULPER



PURE AS SNOW

VAMPIRELLA

SIX HORROR CLASSICS THIS ISSUE!



FLEUR

OUR TARTS WERE
YOUNG AND GAY



RELATIVES



THE NIGHT RAN
RED WITH GORE



OUR COVER
Masterfully hinting at the atmosphere and mood waiting within "The Night Ran Red with Gore" is this latest in a line of powerful covers enriched by Enrich.

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Art Production
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Circulation Direction
AB SIDEMAN

Marketing Director
JEFF ROVIN

Cover
ENRICH

Artists This Issue
AURALEON
FERNANDO FERNANDEZ
ESTEBAN MAROTO
FELIX MAS
JOSE ORTIZ
RAMON TORRENTS

Writers This Issue
BRUCE BEZAIRE
JACK BUTTERWORTH
FERNANDO FERNANDEZ
JOHN JACOBSON
FLAXMAN LOEW
CARL WESSLER

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VAMPIRELLA

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CONCERNING OUR MAIL ORDER ADVERTISEMENTS: Warren Publishing Co. guarantees the delivery and satisfaction of all items advertised in this issue. Should you need to write us concerning an order, whether it be from our address or a Post Office Box address, send your letter to: E.C. Ives, Customer Service Dept., Warren Publishing Co., 145 E. 32nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10016.



"Get daring! Publish something for everybody!"

I just bought issue #33 of your fantastic magazine. Of all the comics and magazines I've bought, I've never written a letter to the editors. But yours is so great I can never wait till it comes to my newsstand. And I don't even mind spending a dollar for it.

I loved the art in "The Sultana's Revenge!" Jose Gonzales is fantastic! Also, the story, "Top to Bottom," by Jack Butterworth was very interesting. But my favorite story in every issue is always the lead feature, with VAMPIRELLA! If she ever starts thinking about settling down, give her my address.

SCOTT ALJIM
Hackensack, N.J.

That's sweet, Scott, but I'm looking forward to quite a few more adventures before I even THINK about that.

Like all the others, VAMPI #32 was great. Keep the color stories going. I buy your magazine every chance I get. CREEPY & EERIE are okay, but I like yours better. Count me as your number one fan!

TODD NEELD
Jay, Fla.

Another great issue of VAMPIRELLA. Dwelling only on the lady herself, I must congratulate Flaxman Loew on a coherent and humorous script. It even had a plot for a change, unlike the last half-dozen or so Vampi yarns. Jose Gonzales is no slouch either, particularly the drawing technique on page 9, panel 5. How about a full story employing it?



LARRY BRNHYY
W. Lafayette, Ind.

VAMPIRELLA #33 wasn't your best, but you can't top yourself all the time. Quality has definitely not declined, though.

What is all this dissent over Vampi's artist? Jose Gonzales did a fantastic job on "The Sultana's Revenge." It had a better story than usual by Flaxman Loew, also.

"Childhood Haunt" presented the fierceness of Pantha very well. And having her show pain at the end, because of her actions, was very good.

I also appreciated the job done by Jeff Jones and Berni Wrightson on the inside covers. But the best thing about the book was Jack Butterworth and Rich Corben's "Top to Bottom." Excellent, excellent, excellent!

BLACKLIGHT
W. Springfield, Mass.



Thanks, thanks, thanks.

VAMPIRELLA #33 was a lot better than #32. The cover was another striking Enrich offering. Sometimes though, Enrich can turn out a dud such as the cover of #32.

Jeff Jones again? You are spoiling me! More Jeff Jones! And this issue, there was the addition of Berni Wrightson! Fantastic. More! More!

The Jose Gonzalez art this ish was some of his best, which is superior, anyway. The story by Flaxman Loew was great, particularly the shock ending. Very EC-like.

Adolfo Abellan did a pretty good job on "Barfly." I didn't even read "No. 37 is Missing" because it looked so bad. The Pantha tale was excellent as usual. Steve Skeates is a fine writer, don't lose him.

Finally, I'd like to say that Bill DuBay is a great editor and writer both! And, Vampirella, I love you. But doesn't everyone?

ANTHONY DALEY
Chicago, Ill.



Well, sometimes, Tony, I wonder about CREEPY and EERIE.

Which artist of the Warren clan is unable to accomplish the difficult task of drawing straight panels, imbues his art with a lack of perspective, fills backgrounds with hastily sketched subjects which lack finesse and has a total disregard for fine detail? Jose Gonzalez, of course. This man's low regard for artistic pride is constantly in painful evidence each issue. As of VAMPIRELLA #33, Gonzalez shows no sign of changing his sloppy habits. One begins to wonder if any other artists want to draw the Vampi strip, or whether Gonzalez has some unfortunate special hold over the editors who allow him to mismanage what might be the finest of Warren's series.

As for other remarks about the issue, Flaxman Loew wrote an especially interesting story, which is an improvement. The Pantha series is still on the upswing, but how long will readers really care about her origin? Rich Corben was somewhat messy with his eye-pounding colors. "No. 37 is Missing" should really have been missing from the issue. "Barfly" was purely average.

ROMAN GORSKI
Perth Amboy, N.J.



Which sounds almost like PRAISE after the rest of your letter, Roman. You're entitled to your opinion, but most readers react far differently to Jose Gonzalez's art.

Most of your readers, judging from the letter columns of recent issues, would prefer to see Adam Van Helsing and his father return to the VAMPIRELLA series. Here is one vote against.

The Van Helsing's represent a line of development which, though once interesting, had become more and more limiting. In my opinion, the recent innovations in the series have more than made up for the alleged damage done by dropping the Van Helsing's.

First and most important has been the lightening of Vampi's personality. She is now bubblier, more sophisticated, a bit sexier than before. During the Van Helsing era, the readers were often treated to page after page of Vampi feeling sorry for herself.

Happily, this has all changed. She seems to have at last accepted herself for what she is, and her whole outlook has improved. Not only does she smile more, but she has even acquired a slight streak of hedonism that finds expression in a taste for elegance and creature comforts. (I get the impression Drakulon was a somewhat Spartan place.)

If an attractive man comes around, VAMPIRELLA is more than willing to explore the possibilities. All this serves to counteract the (hopefully) wrong impression that Vampi is a super-heroine whose mission is to destroy the forces of evil. Despite the perils that constantly befall her, she is basically just a healthy young vampiress out to enjoy life.

Another innovation in the last two issues is one which, I hope, will be developed in the future. I'm speaking of the blood-substitute serum Vampi takes. It will satisfy only her physical need for blood. Her bloodlust is a completely independent appetite; ever-present, it will reassert itself whenever she is subjected to extreme stress. If she is angry or frightened enough, she may attack anyone—friend or enemy, lover or stranger. The story possibilities here are endless.

To conclude on a different note: the subject of a VAMPIRELLA movie. Comics characters in film have a melancholy history. There was the awful Prince Valiant movie, for instance. And on TV, the silly Batman and the dull Steve Canyon. The most recent perpetration, Wonder Woman, was a textbook of what not to do. If a Vampi movie or TV series is ever made, do it better than these.

BRIAN CADEN
Cincinnati, Ohio



We've grown used to fans singling out artwork on certain STORIES for praise, but several readers were lavish with raves over this particular PANEL, a wash rendering by Vampi regular, Jose Gonzalez, for "The Sultana's Revenge."

"Quality has not declined!"

This is probably a little late, but I am writing it now because the more I think about it, the madder I get. I am referring to **Roman Gorski** and **Richard Mayhew's** letters in issue #31. I am 26 years old and read your magazines. For me, there is no other artist for the **VAMPIRELLA** series EXCEPT **Jose Gonzalez**. Those two nitwits know nothing about fine art!

SGT. M.A. JOHNSON
Offutt AFB, N.M.

Jose Gonzalez is the only artist for the **VAMPIRELLA** series and his work is practically the only reason I buy the magazine. Your other artists are interesting, but that's all. As to **David Collins'** suggestion in issue #33 for **Rich Corben** to take over the series, it would be disastrous. I don't care to see **Vampi** looking like a mirror-house freak.

I would like to see more **Vampi** collectibles, too, but only if they're good quality. The safest item to start with would be mini-sized posters and stickers. Most of your readers probably have several times more posters, pictures, etc., than they have wall space to display them, and should welcome smaller items. I would especially like to see regular-sized reprints of **Enrich** covers without logo and overprinting.

Finally, if **Vampi** ever comes to films, don't use anyone like **Raquel Welch**. I rather like **Miss Welch**, but she does not look like anyone's **VAMPIRELLA** to me. And if I saw her as **Vampi**, I'd be thinking, "That's **Raquel Welch!**" all through the picture. Besides, her voice is all wrong. It's best to go with lesser-knowns, especially where super-people are concerned.

ARLENE LO
Plainview, N.Y.



You make some very interesting points, Arlene... But how do you **KNOW** my voice isn't like **Raquel's**?

Best artist in issue #33: **Jose Gonzalez**. In spite of recent letters suggesting replacing **Gonzalez**, I can't agree. His art is much more beautiful than even **Isidro Mones**, and has a great style of its own.

Will **Frank Frazetta** or **Jeff Jones** do any inside stories? They are both masters.

All the **Warren** magazines are fantastic. I really look forward to them.

JACK DINAN
Dennisport, Mass.

Congratulations on being number one in the field of black and white comics, and for introducing quality color. This is nice. But there is always room for improvement.

I have not missed an issue of **VAMPIRELLA**, **CREEPY**, or **EERIE**, and now, **THE SPIRIT**, for a little over a year. I have also acquired many of the earlier issues. I have been a comic freak and fanatic collector for about seven years now, and I buy comics and related media for the illustration. **Frazetta**, **Maroto**, **Torments**, **Neary**, **Mao**, **Gonzalez**, **Fernandez**, **Enrich**, and **Sanjulian** are the reasons I buy your books. **Rich Corben** too.

I would like to see a **Warren** science-fiction magazine. I've been told that s-f doesn't sell and horror does. This is logical because if it were not so, **Jim Warren** would be publishing three s-f books. I can't say what I think would sell and what I wouldn't. I don't see sales figures. However, if **Warren** listens to opinions of readers, (and he seems to want to know them) then this individual casts a plea for variety.

It amazes me how many variations on an idea you guys can produce. Personally, I'm tired of werewolves, mummies, vampires, zombies, witches, psychos, and the traditional supernatural ideas in general. They have been beaten to death.

Get daring! Publish something for everybody. Touch new horizons. Let's have more pure fantasy. Science-fiction and **Sword and Sorcery** ideas can be done only so often too, but juggle them around. **Jeff Jones** does some wild things. Turn him and your other artists loose!

I appeal to you because your company is among the most progressive in the medium of comics in America. Do it for art's sake.

Rich Corben did a graphic story in an underground comic book called **ANOMALY** a couple of years ago entitled, "An Encounter at War." I'd really like to see something like that in color.

Incidentally, I really liked the last two stories **Jack Butterworth** did in conjunction with **Corben**. ("Top to Bottom" and "Wizard Wagstaff") I also liked seeing **Jeff Jones'** work in color in **VAMPIRELLA** #32.

Please never sacrifice quality to keep the price down. **Warren** magazines are a bargain for a dollar because there's nothing like them... anywhere!

KEN MACKLIN
Cotati, Calif.

NEXT ISSUE:

MORE COLOR THAN EVER BEFORE!

In **VAMPIRELLA** #36, we're bringing you not ONE, but TWO of the beautifully crafted full color sections that have made **WARREN MAGAZINES** the talk of the comics world!



#1 **Fernando Fernandez** fashions a haunting study of lurking horror entwined with childish innocence!



#2 **Jose Bea** masterminds a macabre saga of strange obsession and violent, monstrous vengeance!

VAMPI NEEDS SOME TLC

Tender loving care? Well, that too. But we're talking about the letters column. Send yours to:

SCARLETT LETTERS
c/o Warren Publishing Co.
145 E. 32nd St.
New York, N.Y. 10016



VAMPIRE'S VAULT

A HAUNTED HISTORY OF VINCENTE ALCAZAR THE OFFICER-TURNED ARTIST



Vicente Alcazar is a dedicated professional. Although he lives in the treacherous wilds of Maracaibo, Venezuela, Vicente actually flies to the even more treacherous wilds of New York City to deliver each and every job he does for Warren Publishing.

But Vicente is used to traveling. He was born in Madrid, Spain, in the tumultuous year of 1944. And at the age of 14, he remembers following the family tradition. "I was sent to Military School." And Vicente was well on his way to being a full-fledged Naval officer. But after a year of training, the once-and-future artist left the armed forces to study art in Eng-

land.

After putting in the requisite of several years as a starving, struggling artist, Vicente got his first job: Illustrating war comics for Fleetway. And, he admits, "when I had killed the entire Axis army single-handedly many times over, I knew it was time to change."

So it was he began working on magazines like THE SAINT, STAR TREK, and others. Additionally, he did illustrations for science fiction books.

Looking to diversify, Vicente headed for France where he drew comics about espionage and spies. But still he wasn't completely satisfied. So he grabbed his portfolio and made for New York. There, he showed his work to Bill DuBay who, Vicente notes, "told me that I would have a beautiful future as a bus driver." Undaunted, however, Vicente became a part of the Warren staff, and now draws for the CREEPY magazine regularly.

His words to many admirers? "My only wish is that you like my work. I love you all."



One of the many exciting strips drawn by the multi-talented Vicente Alcazar was the EERIE series "Schreck," featuring a futuristic hero.

VARIATION ON A THEME

If you follow our letters page, you've noticed much comment about Jose Gonzalez, our VAMPIRELLA artist, most of it testifying to his being the "only artist suitable for Vampi!" And we'd be pretty inclined to go along with that. Since his debut in VAMPIRELLA #12, Jose has indelibly stamped our lovely lady from Drakulon and her supporting crew with his very distinctive and personal style. Only once in all that time has anyone else had a hand in the art, and it met with more than a few howls of dismay from rabid Vampi fans.

This issue finds us somewhat steeled for another onslaught... But it probably isn't going to come, thanks to a gentleman named Jose Ortiz. For this episode and the next, he is handling the art to give Mr. Gonzalez some well-earned vacation time. Mr. G. is the proverbial "impossible act to follow," but Jose Ortiz did a fine job of maintaining the necessary character and flavor, while imparting his own style. The result is a thoughtful variation, not a slavish imitation... And we're betting you'll be pleased with the results.

So, next issue, another tale by Mr. Ortiz, and then, in VAMPIRELLA #37, Jose Gonzalez returns... and in full color, yet! Stick with us!

1974 NEW YORK COMIC ART CONVENTION JULY 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 HOTEL COMMODORE



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BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11224

VAMPIRELLA

COGNOSCENTI OF THE *DRAKULONNE SAGA* WILL NOT NEED TO BE REMINDED OF THE DETAILS OF THE ADORABLE *VAMPIRELLA'S* LIFE-STYLE. HOW SHE HAILS FROM THE VAMPIRE PLANET OF DRAKULON, CAN ONLY LIVE AS A NORMAL WOMAN BY DRINKING *BLOOD-SUBSTITUTE* SERUM EVERY TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, AND SO FORTH.

A TOUCHING DETAIL THAT MAY HAVE ESCAPED EVEN THE MOST PERCEPTIVE OF *VAMPIRELLA'S* FANS IS THE *DEDICATION* WITH WHICH THE *DELICIOUS DRAKULONNE* TRIES TO KICK THE BLOOD-IMBIBING HABIT....

THE POOR DARLING *WANTS* TO BE ACCEPTED AS ONE OF US. FOR THIS REASON, SHE STICKS TO HER BLOOD-SUBSTITUTE, TURNS AN HONEST BUCK AS *ASSISTANT* TO ILLUSIONIST-EXTRAORDINARY PENDRAGON, AND GENERALLY WORKS HARD ON THE PROBLEMS OF KEEPING OUT OF TROUBLE...AND IT ISN'T *EASY*. NOT WHEN YOU'RE A LADY-VAMPIRE WITH A *POTENTIAL INTAKE* OF AROUND *3PINTS* PER DIEM!

SMALL WONDER THAT *VAMPIRELLA* NEARLY TOUCHES THE EDGES OF *BLACK DESPAIR* WHEN SHE GETS MIXED UP WITH, AND MISTAKEN FOR...

THE BLOOD-GULPER

BE *STRONG*, MY DEAR! ONCE THE *BRAIN* IS REMOVED, THERE WILL BE NO MORE PAIN!



A MAN AND WIFE, RETURNING HOME LATE AT NIGHT, FIND A BODY IN THE GUTTER.

THE EYES STARING, THE FLESH PAPER-WHITE AND DRAINED OF ALL ITS LIFE-GIVING BLOOD, THE THROAT PUNCTURED BY TWIN FANG-MARKS AT THE JUGULAR!

EEEEEEK!

OH, MY GAWD!

REEEEHHH!

IT'S THE WORK OF THE BLOOD-GULPER!

THE BLOOD-GULPER'S STRUCK AGAIN!

THE NEWS HITS THE MORNING HEADLINES... AND PENDRAGON MAKES AN *OBLIQUE ALLUSION* THAT SEARS VAMPIRELLA'S NERVE-ENDS...

FOR THE LAST TIME, I AM *NOT* THE BLOOD-GULPER!

MY DEAR VAMPI...

WHY BOTHER TO TRY TO *DECEIVE* AN OLD AND UNDERSTANDING FRIEND? LET'S *FACE* IT, HONEY... THIS CHARMING METROPOLIS IS *NOT* HEAVILY POPULATED WITH VAMPIRES... NOT IN THE *LITERAL* SENSE! I WOULD ESTIMATE THAT THE LIKELIHOOD OF THERE BEING EVEN *ONE* OTHER OF YOUR *PERSUASION* IN ALL NEW YORK IS JUST ABOUT *NIL*!



THAT NIGHT, THE BLOOD-GULPER STRIKES AGAIN. HOWEVER, ON THIS OCCASION, THE READER IS PRIVILEGED TO WITNESS THE *MODUS OPERANDI*...



HOLD HIM STEADY, KARL, WHILE I ATTACH THE FANGS!

AAAAH... NO... NOOOO!

THAT'S ABOUT IT, KARL!

EVERY LAST DROP, HUGO!



AND THIS TIME IT WILL WORK, VAN HARFF?

IT WILL WORK, HATRACK! THE ASSEMBLED TISSUES HAVE BEEN FIVE TIMES NOURISHED BY TOTAL TRANSFUSIONS. THIS TIME, HE WILL RISE AS A LIVING, BREATHING, THINKING... SEMI-HUMAN!



THE DELIVERY VAN THEN PROCEEDS, WITH ITS GRUESOME BURDEN, TO A DARK HOUSE IN A SILENT STREET.

DOCTOR SAULUS X. VAN HARFF WAS ONCE THE ACE NEURO-SURGEON OF CENTRAL EUROPE...TILL MADNESS CLOUDED HIS MORAL PERCEPTION, WHILE LEAVING HIS SKILL INTACT...

HA! FIVE LITRES OF BLOOD...!THE TOTAL VOLUME CONTAINED IN AN ADULT MALE!

FRESH AND WARM AND NEWLY-MILKED FROM THE LIVING VEINS, DOC!



VAN HARFF'S COMPANION IS THE **INTERNATIONAL IMPRESARIO**, HATTRACK, WHO GAVE TO THE WORLD SUCH GIANTS OF SHOW-BIZ AS **SAMMY BLEECHER**, "**THE VOICE OF DELIGHT**" (WHO DROPPED OUT OF THE SCENE, IN RATHER CURIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES, IN VENICE)*

TO THINK THAT THIS FINE-LOOKING SPRIG OF CONTEMPORARY YOUTH IS NO MORE THAN A HEAP OF **HUMAN SPARE-PARTS** FROM A MORGUE!

AH, BUT WITH A **COMPUTER** FOR A BRAIN, MY DEAR HATTRACK! I HAVE TO CONCEDE THAT THE TECHNIQUES OF MICRO-ELECTRONICS GIVE ME SOME ADVANTAGE OVER SUCH EARLY PRACTITIONERS AS **FRANKENSTEIN!**

AND MY SEMI-HUMAN POSSESSES ANOTHER **INGREDIENT**, DON'T FORGET! A **SPARE PART** THAT PUTS HIM IN A CLASS OF HIS OWN...

THE **LARYNX** OF **SAMMY BLEECHER**, CONTAINING THE **FINEST SET OF VOCAL CHORDS** THAT EVER **WARBLED A BALLAD!**



I LOST A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR INVESTMENT WHEN SAMMY WENT OUT OF HIS MIND! I THANK MY STARS THAT I MET YOU, MY FRIEND, AND THAT WE WERE ABLE TO TRACE THE **SHAMBLING WRECK** THAT WAS ONCE **THE GREATEST POP-IDOL ON EARTH...** AND AVAIL OURSELVES OF HIS **LARYNX**, BEFORE LAYING HIS TORTURED SOUL TO **REST...**

WHAT DID I TELL YOU, HATTRACK? **NOW HE LIVES!**

I WILL MAKE HIM **BIGGER** THAN SAMMY BLEECHER! HIS **METEORIC** CAREER WILL BEGIN WHERE SAMMY'S LEFT OFF!



I HAD TO GIVE HIM THIS FRINGE OF HAIR, TO CONCEAL THE RATHER DISFIGURING LINE OF **STITCHES**. SUCH A PITY!

YOU ARE TOO MUCH OF A **PERFECTIONIST**, MY DEAR VAN HARFF! THE FRINGE IS CUTE! SOON **EVERYONE** WILL BE WEARING HIS HAIR IN A **FRINGE!**

THE NEWS IS OUT BY MORNING...

BLOOD GULPER STRIKES AGAIN

DAMN YOU, **PENDRAGON!** I TELL YOU IT WASN'T **ME!**



IT'S ALWAYS A TRAGEDY WHEN BELOVED FRIENDS FALL OUT OVER SOME STUPID MISUNDERSTANDING...

YOUR *PROTESTATIONS*, MY DEAR VAMPI, MERELY SERVE TO HEIGHTEN MY *CYNICISM*! AND *CYNICISM* IS A *~HIC~* FORM OF INTELLECTUAL DANDYISM THAT I *REALLY* CAN'T AFFORD!

YOU... DON'T... BELIEVE... ME!

IT IS THE *SORROW* OF OUR HUMAN STATE, M'DEAR. YOU SHOULD BE *HAPPY* NOT TO SHARE IT... FORSAKEN BELIEFS, LOST CAUSES *~HIC~* IMPOSSIBLE LOYALTIES.

YOU OBSTINATE...

...INEBRIATED...

M-MERCY...!

...OLD FOSSIL!

DON'T LOOK TO ME FOR *SUPPORT* ANY LONGER! FROM HERE ON, I'M GOING SOLO! THE ACT'S *FINISHED* AS FAR AS YOU'RE CONCERNED! FROM HERE ON, I'M GOING TO BE A STAR! WHO SHINES ALONE!

THE *DELICIOUS DRAKULONNE* PLAYS A TOP CABARET SPOT THAT NIGHT... SOLO.



LADIES AND GENTLEMEN... I WILL NOW *DISAPPEAR* AND THEN REAPPEAR AS... A VAMPIRE BAT!

YOU WILL LOVE EVERY MOMENT OF IT!

SHE IS A *SENSATION!* IN THE WEEKS THAT FOLLOW, SHE *CONTINUES* TO BE A SENSATION.

ENCORE! DO IT AGAIN, VAMPI!

YOU ARE TOO, TOO KIND MY DARLINGS... AND I LOVE YOU ALL!



WHILE VAMPI GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH, PENNY GOES FROM *BAR* TO *BAR*!

SHAY... DID I EVER TELL YA 'BOUT THE TIME I SCORNE THE FAIREST FLOWER OF ALL WOMANHOOD AN'... AN' WAS CAST DOWN... LIKE LOOSH-LUCIFER... FROM THE STARRY HEAVENS?

NO, BUD. BUT IT MUSTA BEEN ONE HELLUVA PARTY!



AT ABOUT THIS TIME IS LAUNCHED THE *POP-RAVE* OF THE DECADE! THE *NEW* "VOICE OF DELIGHT"...

...*DEVASTATOR*!!

I WANT IT ALL, BABY.. THE MOON I GOT, THE SUN COMES LATER.



IT IS A TRIUMPH FOR DEVASTATOR'S ILL-ASSORTED BEGETTERS.

OF COURSE, MY DEAR *HATRACK* HE WILL CONTINUE TO REQUIRE FIVE LITRES OF FRESH BLOOD DAILY!

SOME VAMPIRE!



DEVASTATOR'S *THIRST* IS FED NIGHTLY
...AT THE COST OF ONE HUMAN LIFE!

THE *CULT OF DEVASTATOR* TRANSCENDS
ANYTHING TO HIT SHOW-BIZ SINCE *SALOME*
DANCED FOR HEROD.

DEV-
AS-TAA-
TORRRRR!



EEEEEEHHH!
IT'S THE
BLOOD-GULPER
AGAIN!



THE INEVITABLE HAPPENS -
THE PATH OF THE *SEMI-
HUMAN* CROSSES THAT OF
THE *GIRL OF DRAKULONNE!*
FATE ORDAINS IT!

DEVASTATOR
AND HIS
MASTERS
ARE WATCHING
FROM THE
WINGS THAT
NIGHT...

YOU ARE
TOO, TOO KIND
DARLINGS... AND
I LOVE YOU
ALL!



AND I
LOVE YOU,
TOO, BABY!



DID YOU HEAR THAT,
VAN HARFF? OUR
PROTEGE HAS BEEN SMITTEN
BY THE DARTS OF CUPID... AND
HIM JUST A HEAP OF *SPARE
PARTS* AND A *TIN BRAIN*!

AT THE END OF THE SHOW, DEVASTATOR INSISTS THAT VAMPIRELLA TAKES A LAST BOW WITH HIM...



SOMETHING ABOUT HIM **FASCINATES** ME! WHAT CAN IT BE?



HE CARRIES AN **AURA** WITH HIM... A **SUBTLE ODOR**... YET **ROUND... RICH... SPLENDIDLY APPETIZING!**

DEVASTATOR IS FIRM...

I WANT HER! I WANT **VAMPIRELLA!** FOR MY OWN! **NOW AND FOREVER!**

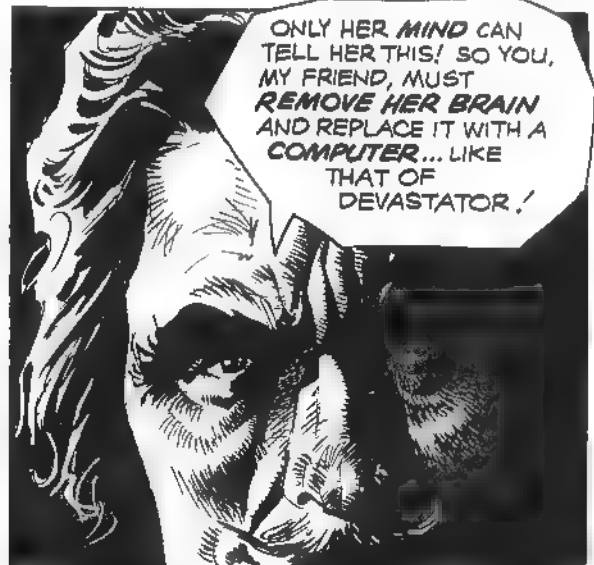


AND YOU SHALL HAVE HER, MY DEAR BOY... I **PROMISE** YOU!

HOW CAN THIS **BEP** THE GIRL WILL **SCARCELY** TAKE HIM FOR HER LOVER OF HER OWN **FREE WILL**... NOT WHEN CLOSE ACQUAINTANCE REVEALS TO HER THAT HE IS **CUSTOM-BUILT!**



ONLY HER **MIND** CAN TELL HER THIS! SO YOU, MY FRIEND, MUST **REMOVE HER BRAIN** AND REPLACE IT WITH A **COMPUTER**... LIKE THAT OF **DEVASTATOR!**



COMES THE NIGHT OF DEVASTATOR'S BIGGEST
WORLD-WIDE T.V. HOOK-UP, TO BE RELAYED FROM
THE STAGE AT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN...

TONIGHT, WHEN YOU GET
HOME AFTER THE **SHOW**,
THERE'LL BE A LITTLE
SURPRISE FOR YOU. A
DELICIOUS PARCEL
OF **GIFT-WRAPPED**
GOODIES!

VAMPIRELLA!

RIGHT!

...OVERPOWERED...

MMMMMMMM...

VAMPIRELLA IS PURSUED IN
THE DARK STREETS...



...BROUGHT TO THE
INSANITARY OPERATING
THEATRE OF DOCTOR
SAULUS X. VAN HARFF.



BLOOD!... VAMPI'S EYES ARE
DRAWN TO THE BOTTLE SUSPENDED
ABOVE HER!

PREPARE YOU
FOR A **MARRIAGE**
OF **TRUE MINDS**, MY
DEAR! THE PAIN WILL
SOON BE OVER, AND YOU
WILL BECOME LIKE
DEVASTATOR! A **SEMI-**
HUMAN EXISTING
ON FIVE LITRESS
OF **BLOOD** PER
DAY!

AND BONDS
SUDDENLY
SNAP UNDER
SAKULONNE
STRENGTH...

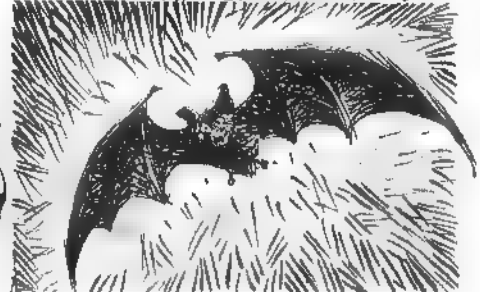


NOW I
KNOW WHAT
IT IS...**THE**
SUBTLE
ODOR... THAT
FIRST **ATTRACTED**
ME TO
DEVASTATOR!



WHAT...
WHAT ARE
YOU GOING
TO **DO** TO
ME?

THEN... **TRANSFORMATION!**



THE LOVELY DRAKULONNE ARISES FROM THE TABLE
IN HER PERSONA OF **VAMPIRE BAT**... AND GORGES
HERSELF ON THE LIFE BLOOD OF THE MAD SURGEON!

...AND OTHERS!



SOON, THERE IS NOT A
DROP OF BLOOD IN
THE PLACE!



AND NOW, TO
PUT THE RECORD
STRAIGHT ABOUT
ME AND THE
BLOOD-GULPER!

THE MAMMOTH, WORLD-WIDE T.V. SPECTACULAR IS DRAWING TO ITS CLIMAX! FROM NEW YORK TO NIJMEGEN, FROM THE BRONX TO BUENOS AIRES, *THE NEW VOICE OF DELIGHT* MAKES ITS DEFINITIVE STATEMENT OF *ULTIMATE DECADENCE!*



HATTRACK SMILES, WELL PLEASED.



AND THEN...



AN ESTIMATED 500-MILLION PEOPLE SEE THE VAMPIRE BAT FLY DOWN THE LENGTH OF THE CONCERT HALL TOWARDS THE EXPOSED THROAT OF THE HALF-HUMAN CALLED DEVASTATOR!



BLOOD-DRAINED, THE THING THAT WAS CALLED DEVASTATOR COLLAPSES AS IT STANDS!

BEFORE THE RIVETTED GAZE OF THE WATCHING MILLIONS, IT RETURNS TO THE HEAP OF HUMAN REMAINS AND ELECTRONICS FROM WHICH IT WAS CONSTRUCTED.



HATTRACK SIMPLY GOES INSANE AT THE SIGHT. A LIFETIME OF RESTRAINT AWAITS THE FORMER INTERNATIONAL IMPRESARIO



HEH
HEH
HEH...

VAMPIRELLA SEEKS OUT POOR OLD PENDRAGON, WHO, BY NOW, HAS SUNK JUST ABOUT AS FAR AS HE CAN GO...

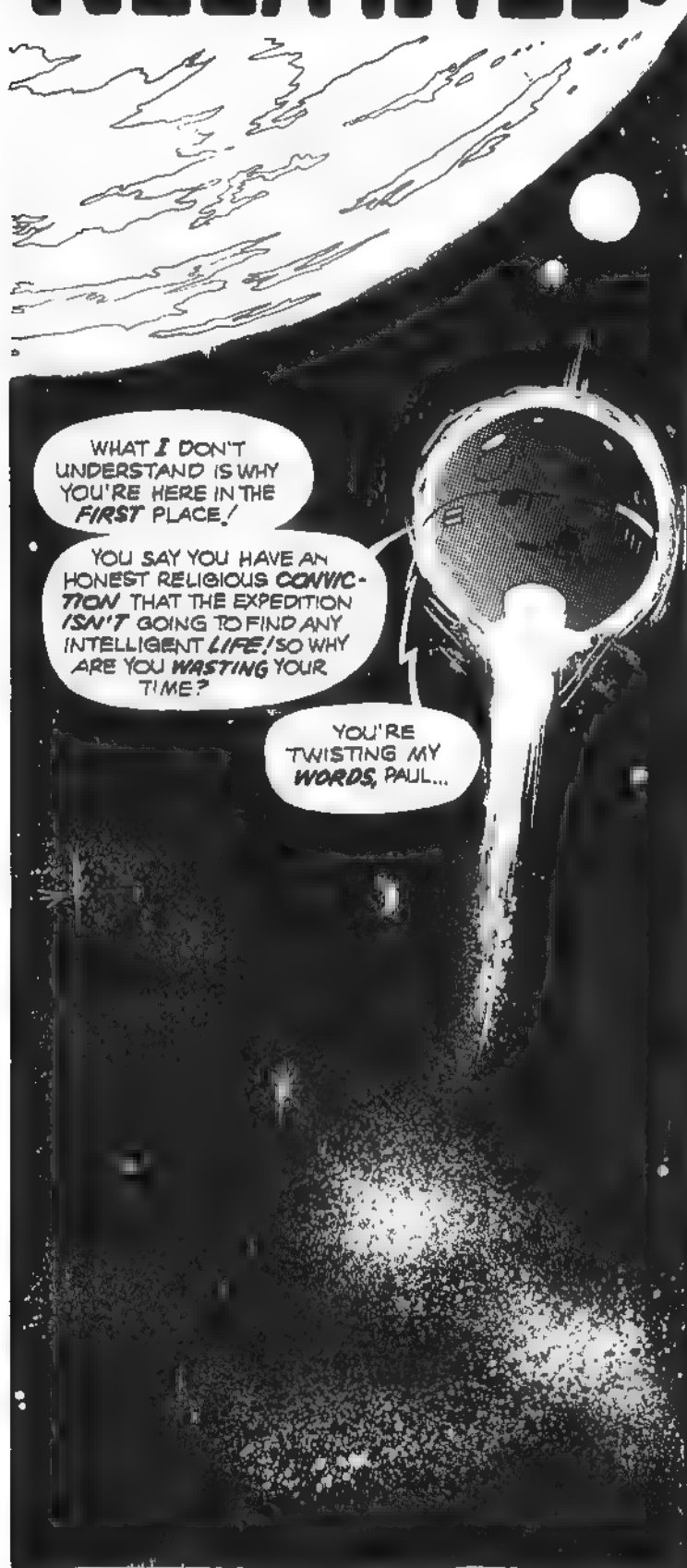
WE ARE ALL OF US LYING IN THE GUTTER, BUT SOME OF US...AND I FOR ONE, VAMPI, ARE LOOKING UP AT THE STARS!



PENDY DARLING, I'VE COME TO TAKE YOU HOME.

END

RELATIVES!



WHAT I DON'T UNDERSTAND IS WHY YOU'RE HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE!

YOU SAY YOU HAVE AN HONEST RELIGIOUS **CONVICTION** THAT THE EXPEDITION **ISN'T** GOING TO FIND ANY INTELLIGENT **LIFE**! SO WHY ARE YOU **WASTING** YOUR TIME?

YOU'RE TWISTING MY WORDS, PAUL...



... I SAID I **DOUBT** WE'LL FIND ANY INTELLIGENT LIFE! I'M **CONVINCED** THAT IF WE **DO**, IT WILL BE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD... **HUMANOID**!

WHAT ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF **ENVIRONMENT**?! YOU'RE A **SCIENTIST**, CLIFF!

"SCIENTIST" IS NOT THE ANTONYM OF "CHRISTIAN," NO MORE THAN "CHRISTIAN" IS THE SYNONYM OF "CHILD!" SO DON'T PATRONIZE ME. I **CREDIT** ENVIRONMENTAL ADAPTATION...



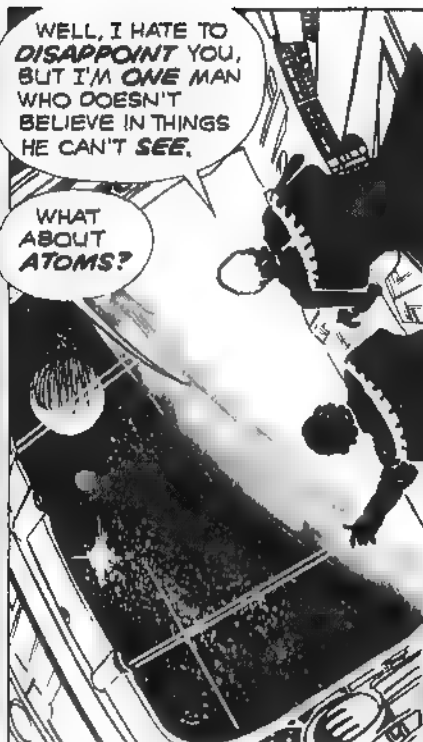
... I SIMPLY **INSIST** THAT IF THE ENVIRONMENT IS NOT SUPPORTIVE OF **HUMANITY**, IT IS NOT SUPPORTIVE OF **INTELLIGENCE**.



YOU SEE, I **DISTINGUISH** BETWEEN **ANIMAL** AND **MAN**.

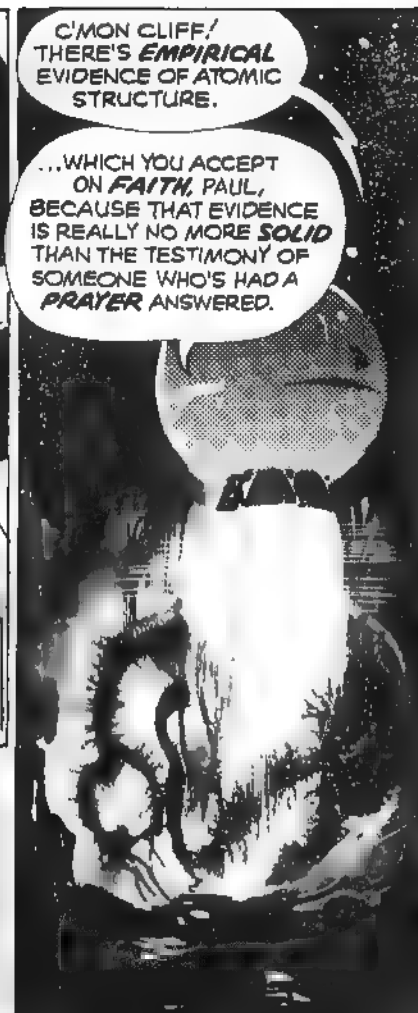
MAN IS THE **ONLY** CREATURE ABLE TO BELIEVE IN INTANGIBLES AND ACT ON **FAITH**.

THAT MAKES MAN **UNIQUE**... IF NOT TO EARTH, THEN TO THE **UNIVERSE!**



WELL, I HATE TO **DISAPPOINT** YOU, BUT I'M **ONE** MAN WHO DOESN'T BELIEVE IN THINGS HE CAN'T **SEE**.

WHAT ABOUT **ATOMS?**

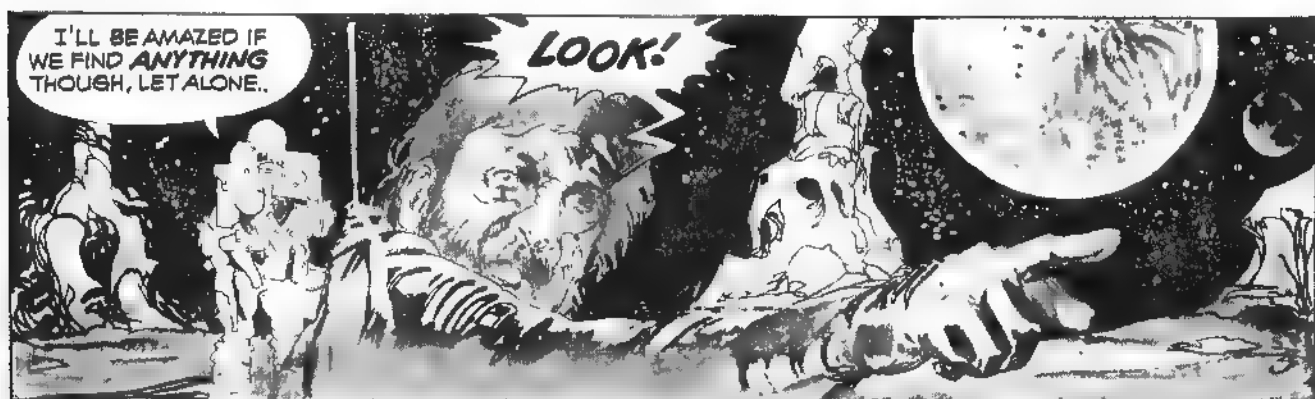


C'MON CLIFF! THERE'S **EMPIRICAL** EVIDENCE OF ATOMIC STRUCTURE.

...WHICH YOU ACCEPT ON **FAITH**, PAUL, BECAUSE THAT EVIDENCE IS REALLY NO MORE **SOLID** THAN THE TESTIMONY OF SOMEONE WHO'S HAD A **PRAYER** ANSWERED.



ALL RIGHT! ALL **RIGHT!** WE'VE GOT A **PLANET** TO EXPLORE! MAYBE WE'LL FIND SOME ANSWERS **HERE!**



I'LL BE AMAZED IF WE FIND **ANYTHING** THOUGH, LET ALONE..

LOOK!



I SEE IT!
WHAT...?

IT LOOKS TO BE SOME
SPECIES OF **ROOTLESS**
VEGETATION. AND FROM IT'S
EASE OF MOVEMENT, I'D JUDGE
THE MUSCULATURE TO BE
QUITE SOPHISTICATED.

SO IT WOULD
APPEAR.

WELL, THERE YOU **HAVE** IT
CLIFFORD... A TEXT-BOOK
EXAMPLE OF **EVOLUTIONARY**
ADJUSTMENT... PLANTS WHICH
HAVE DEVELOPED **MOBILITY**
TO SEARCH OUT MOISTURE
IN A PARCHED LANDSCAPE.

YOU'RE RE-ARGUING
POINTS YOU'VE ALREADY
WOW, PAUL. SHOW ME
SOMETHING BESIDES
MINDLESS INSTINCT
AND I'LL BE
IMPRESSED.

I DON'T KNOW
ABOUT **THAT**, BUT
IS OR **IS NOT** THAT
THING WEARING
CLOTHES?

SHOW ME
A SOUL.

WHAT...?



NICE TRY, BUT
THAT'S ALMOST
CERTAINLY NATURAL
MEMBRANE AND
YOU KNOW IT.

PERHAPS, BUT SINCE I
DON'T SEE ANY EXTRA-
TERRESTIAL **SAINT**
AUGUSTINES NEARBY,
WAITING TO ENGAGE YOU
IN DISCUSSION OF YOUR
MUTUAL **DIETY...**

...LET'S **FOLLOW**
OUR FRIEND! HE'S
MOVING OFF.





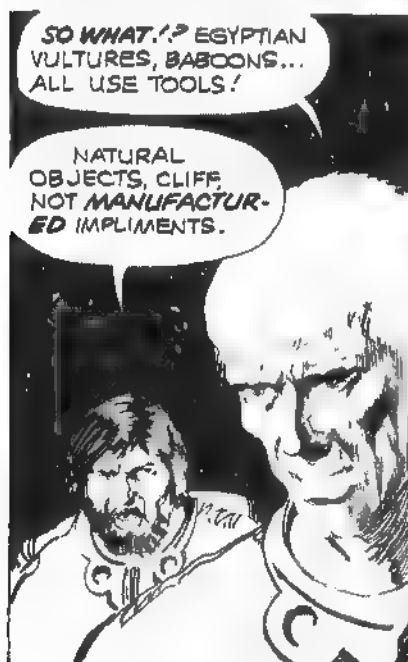
IT'S A... A **SETTLEMENT** OF THEM! AND THOSE STRUCTURES... THE **SOPHISTICATION!** BY GOD, THEY ARE **INTELLIGENT!**

B-BUT... THIS IS **CRAZY!** IT CAN'T BE!



LOOK... AN UNINITIATED VISITOR TO EARTH MIGHT THINK THE **CRAB** INTELLIGENT JUDGING BY HIS **SHELL**... WE HAVE TO BE **CAREFUL** HERE!

CAREFUL?/ **GOOD LORD, MAN!** YOUR PREJUDICES ARE **BLINDING** YOU. THEY'RE USING **TOOLS** DOWN THERE... TO BUILD, TO **COOK!**



SO WHAT!/? EGYPTIAN VULTURES, BABOONS... ALL USE **TOOLS!**

NATURAL OBJECTS, CLIFF NOT **MANUFACTURED** IMPLIMENTS.



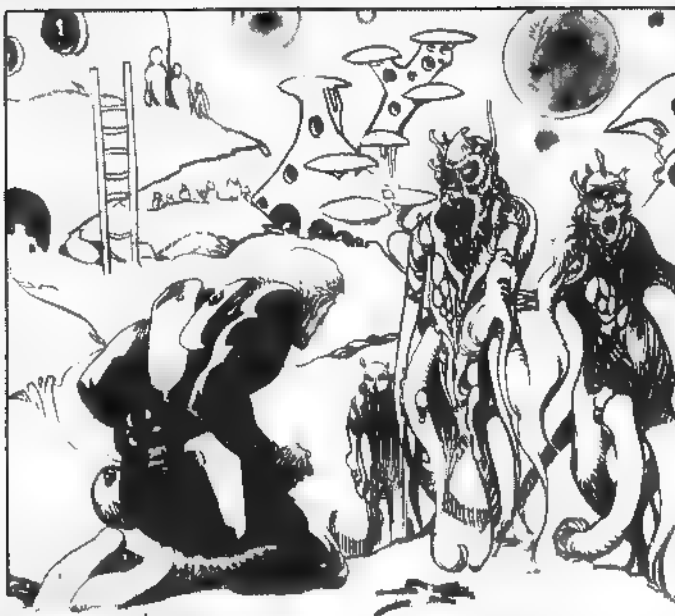
NO! YOU ARE **NOT** CIVILIZED!

NOT THE WORK OF GOD!

CLIFF..!

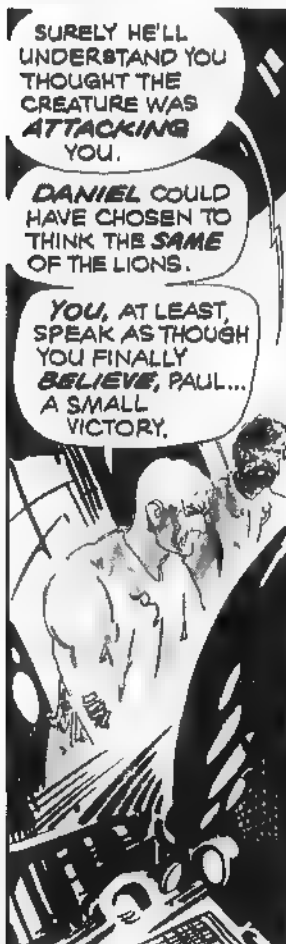


CLIFF..!



"PAUL AYLES, PERSONAL LOG: "IN THE WEEKS SINCE INITIAL CONTACT, REGULATION CONCEALED STUDY OF THE SUBJECTS HAS PRODUCED IRREFUTABLE EVIDENCE OF A *PRIMITIVE* BUT RAPIDLY ADVANCING *CIVILIZATION*. THERE IS CAUSE FOR *CONCERN* OVER CLIFF, WHO CONTINUES TO WITHDRAW INTO HIS *WORK*. HIS FAITH IN A *UNIVERSAL GOD* IS VIRTUALLY *SHATTERED*..."





LOOK CLOSELY AT THIS GIRL... SHE IS A WITCH, AND HER POWERS ARE GREAT. IN SERVICE OF THE DARK FORCES SHE LIVES IN MANY LANDS AND MANY AGES. SHE IS ETERNAL. SHE IS...

FLEUR

MICKEY? IT'S ME... FLEUR!

ARE YOU IN HERE MICKEY? I CAME LIKE YOU ASKED.

OUR TARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY!

KEEP IT QUIET, FLEUR! I'M RIGHT BESIDE YOU.

EEEEK!!

FROM SPAIN OF THE INQUISITION, MYSTIC POWER HAS CARRIED FLEUR TO BOSTON OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY...

TO A SOME-WHAT SUDDEN CONFERENCE WITH A FRIEND AND WARLOCK!

HA! HA! HA! YOU SURE
SCARED THE STUFFING OUT
OF ME, MICKEY. WHY THE
SILLY **DISGUISE**?

YOU WOULDN'T LAUGH
IF YOU KNEW HOW **HEMMED**
IN OUR **DARK FORCES** ARE IN
THIS CITY! THIS WAS THE ONLY
WAY I COULD SEE YOU
WITHOUT BEING **CAUGHT**!

THEN YOU MUST
HAVE **CALLED ME** FOR
SOMETHING MORE
IMPORTANT THAN SEX
UNDER THE STARS!

YOU'RE A **CLEVER**
GIRL, FLEUR... AND
UNKNOWN IN THIS
CITY... THE ONLY PERSON
WHO COULD **DELIVER**...

...THIS
ENVELOPE
WITHOUT AROUSING
SUSPICION!

TAKE THE ENVELOPE
AND STAND IN FRONT OF THE
GIRLS' BOARDING HOUSE
AT 2904 DOLWIN ST.

OUR **CONTACT**
WILL ASK YOU "WHAT'S
A NICE GIRL LIKE **YOU**
DOING IN A **PLACE** LIKE
THIS?" THEN YOU'LL
GIVE HIM THE
ENVELOPE.

SO, FOR SATAN'S
SAKE, DON'T DO
ANYTHING TO BRING
ATTENTION TO YOURSELF!
THE **FATE** OF OUR ENTIRE
MOVEMENT IN THIS CITY
DEPENDS ON YOU.

THE RIVAL
COVEN WE'RE WARRING
WITH HAS GONE **WILD**...
YOU OUGHT TO **SEE**
THE MONSTER THEY
SEND ONCE THEY'VE
A **LINE** ON ANY OF US!

MICKEY ISN'T TOO
CONCERNED WHERE
HE SENDS INNOCENT YOUNG
WITCHES. I HOPE MY
CONTACT MAKES GOOD
TIME.

**GIRLS'
BOARDING
HOUSE**
2904

**WELL
NOW...!
HELLO
THERE!**



WANNA
HAVE SOME **FUN**
GIRLIE?

ARE YOU THE
MAN I'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR?



YOU DON'T NEED
TO WAIT **NO MORE**. OL'
McCARTHY HERE'S GOIN'
TO SHOW YOU SOME
REAL FUN.

UH... MR. McCARTHY...
IF YOU'RE THE
RIGHT MAN GIVE ME
THE **CODE.** WHAT
WAS THE **QUESTION**
YOU WERE SUPPOSED
TO ASK?



WE DON'T NEED
QUESTIONS, CUZ I
KNOW ALL THE
ANSWERS... AN I'M
GOIN' TA GIVE YA
A FEW...

APPARENTLY THEN,
YOU'RE **NOT** THE
PERSON I WAS TO **WAIT**
FOR. SO THIS
INVOLUNTARY LITTLE
TRYST WILL COME
TO AN...

...END!

POOFT!



HOPE NO
ONE **SAW**
THAT...

...AND
THAT THE
RIVAL **COVEN**
DOESN'T
SENSE IT!

~RIBBIT!~

THIS AREA IS MORE
DANGEROUS THAN I
THOUGHT. IF I CAN'T USE
MY **MAGIC**, I'LL BE LUCKY
TO **LIVE** UNTIL MY
CONTACT **ARRIVES.**

~RIBBIT!~

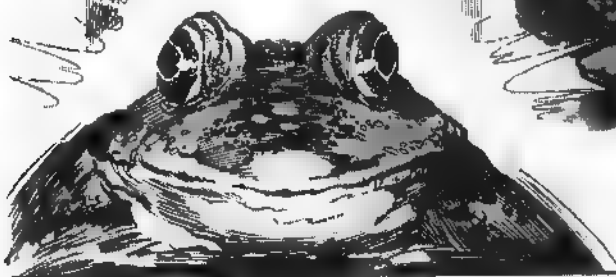
I'D BETTER GET **OFF**
THE **STREET.** HOPE MY
CONTACT WILL HAVE ENOUGH
BRAINS TO FIGURE I TOOK
SHELTER IN THIS
BOARDING HOUSE.



GIRLS'
BOARDING
HOUSE

2904

~RIBBIT!~





THAT WAS A
CLOSE CALL!



WHAT DO
YOU WANT?

NOW
WHAT?



PLEASE, MA'AM,
DON'T GIVE ME A
FRIGHT LIKE THAT.
I JUST WENT THROUGH
A **BAD** EXPERIENCE.

WAS IT AT A
COSTUME PARTY,
DEARIE...? EVEN
OUR GIRLS DON'T
DRESS AS WILD
AS **THAT**!

ER...**YES!** I WONDER...
COULD... I ... **RENT**
A ROOM FOR THE NIGHT?
I DON'T HAVE MUCH
MONEY... BUT I COULD
DO **ODD CHORES**
AROUND THE HOUSE...
MY NAME IS **FLEUR**...

NOT BAD! GOOD
LEGS...AND SHE'S
YOUNGER THAN WE
USUALLY GET AROUND
HERE. PUT HER TO
WORK!

GOOD ENOUGH!
MY NAME IS MRS.
GRIMWATER AND THAT
IS MY HUSBAND. **COME**
WITH **ME**.



GIRLS, GIRLS!
GOOD NEWS! WE HAVE AN
ADDITION TO OUR STAFF.
HER NAME IS **FLEUR** AND I'M
SURE THAT YOU'LL ALL GET
ALONG WITH HER. SHE'S **NEW**
... SO TRY TO SHOW HER
THE **ROPES**...



YOU JUST **SIT**
HERE FOR AWHILE,
FLEUR. GET
ACQUAINTED WITH
THE GIRLS

YES, MA'AM.
YOU'RE VERY
KIND!





WHAT DO YOU
THINK SHE'LL WANT
ME TO *DO...* *COOK?* I
CAN COOK *REAL GOOD!*
EVERYBODY IN THE *COV...*
MY *CLUB...* SAYS I'M THE
BEST COOK AROUND.



CLARA! WE
HAVE A HANDSOME
GENTLEMAN FOR
YOU TONIGHT.

OH *LUCKY GIRL,*
CLARA. YOU'VE
GOT A *DATE!*



STRAIGHT
UPSTAIRS? THEY
DIDN'T EVEN TAKE A
CARRIAGE RIDE
AROUND THE PARK.



MIND IF I MOVE
OVER AND TAKE CLARA'S
PLACE? IT LOOKS LIKE
YOU'VE GOT AN
EXCITING GAME
GOING.

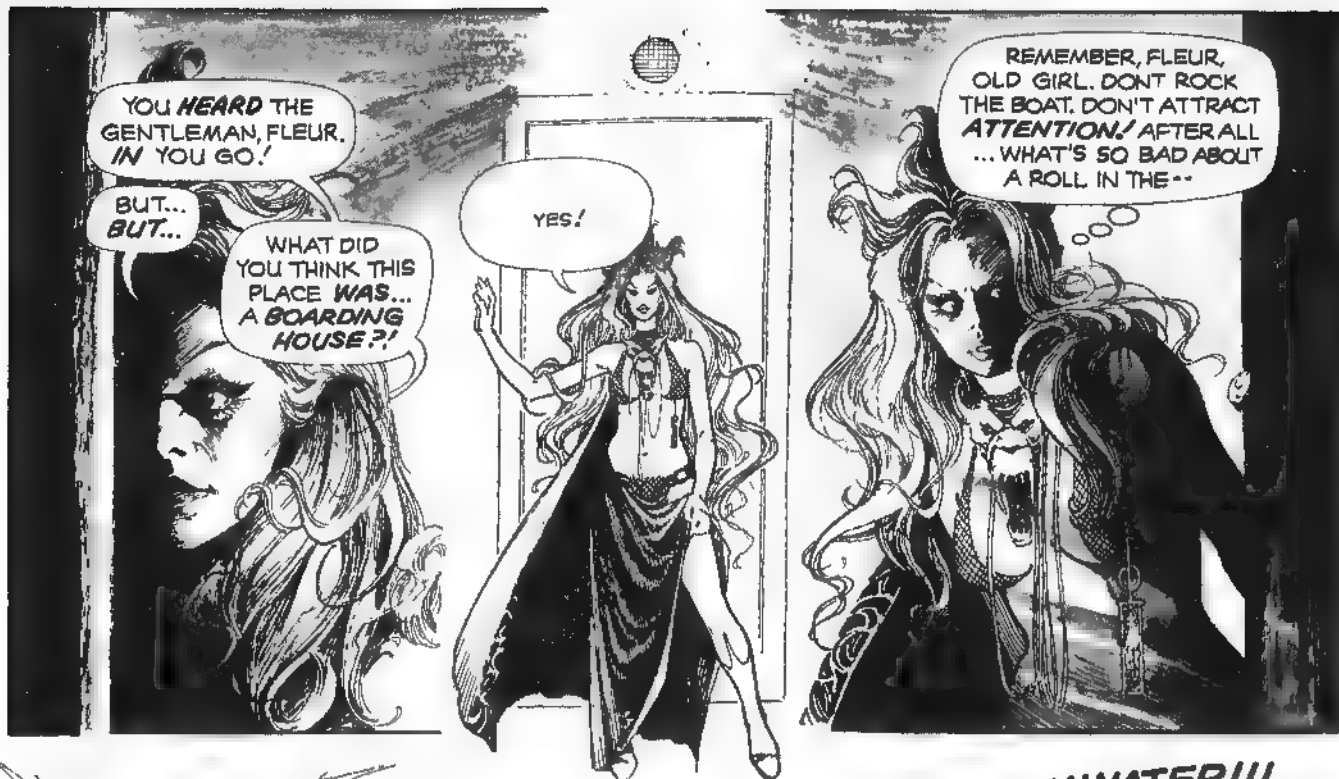


CHECKMATE!



IT DON'T *PAY*
TO BE *SMART*
AROUND HERE
SISTER ..!





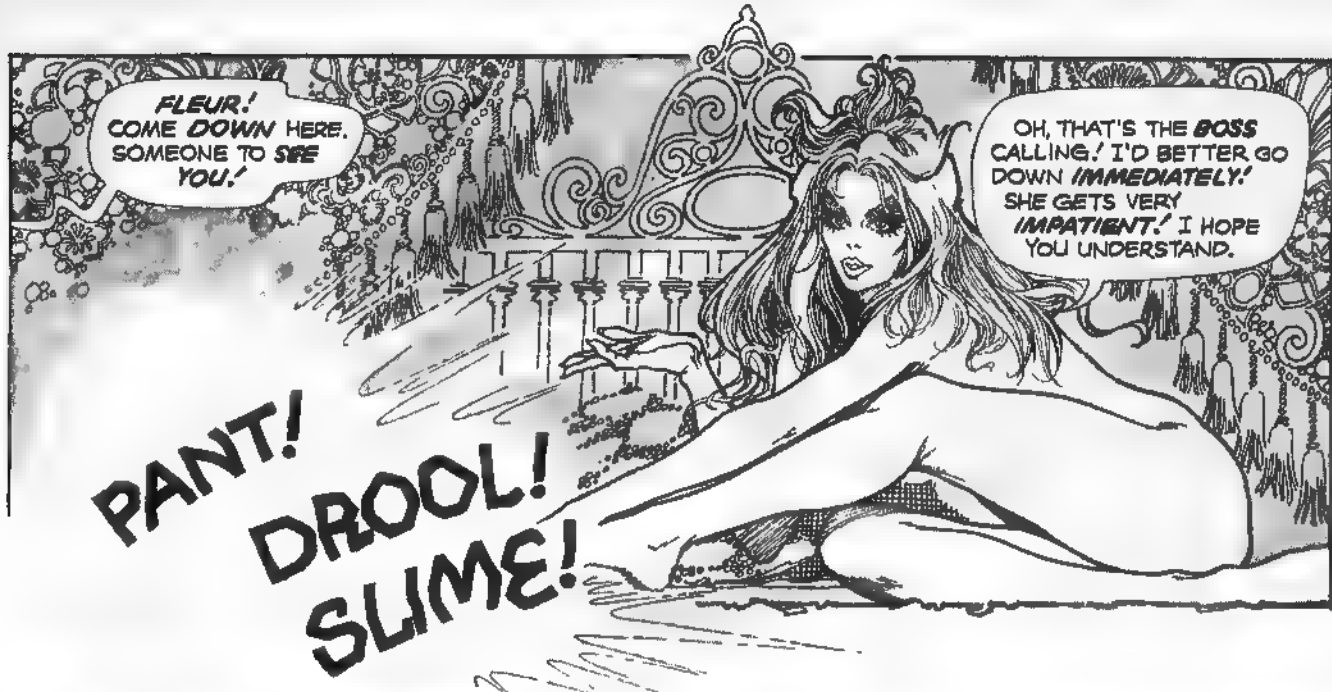
...HEY! W-WHAT'S GOING ON...?!



MRS. GRIMWATER!!!







FLEUR!
COME DOWN HERE.
SOMEONE TO SEE
YOU!

OH, THAT'S THE BOSS
CALLING! I'D BETTER GO
DOWN IMMEDIATELY!
SHE GETS VERY
IMPATIENT! I HOPE
YOU UNDERSTAND.

PANT!
DROOL!
SLIME!



THIS
IS THE MAN,
FLEUR!

WHY FLEUR...
WHAT'S A NICE GIRL
LIKE YOU DOING IN
A PLACE LIKE THIS?

IF
YOU ONLY
KNEW!



WE HAVEN'T
TIME TO DAWDLE,
FATHER. LET'S BE
GOING!

A VERY
GOOD IDEA,
MY CHILD.



I NOTICED IN PASSING
THAT YOU HAVE A VERY
STRANGE NEIGHBORHOOD
HERE. JUST AS I WAS
WALKING UP YOUR STEPS
I SAW THE BIGGEST
FROG SITTING ON YOUR
FENCE....!

WELL, GOOD
NIGHT... GOD BE
WITH YOU!



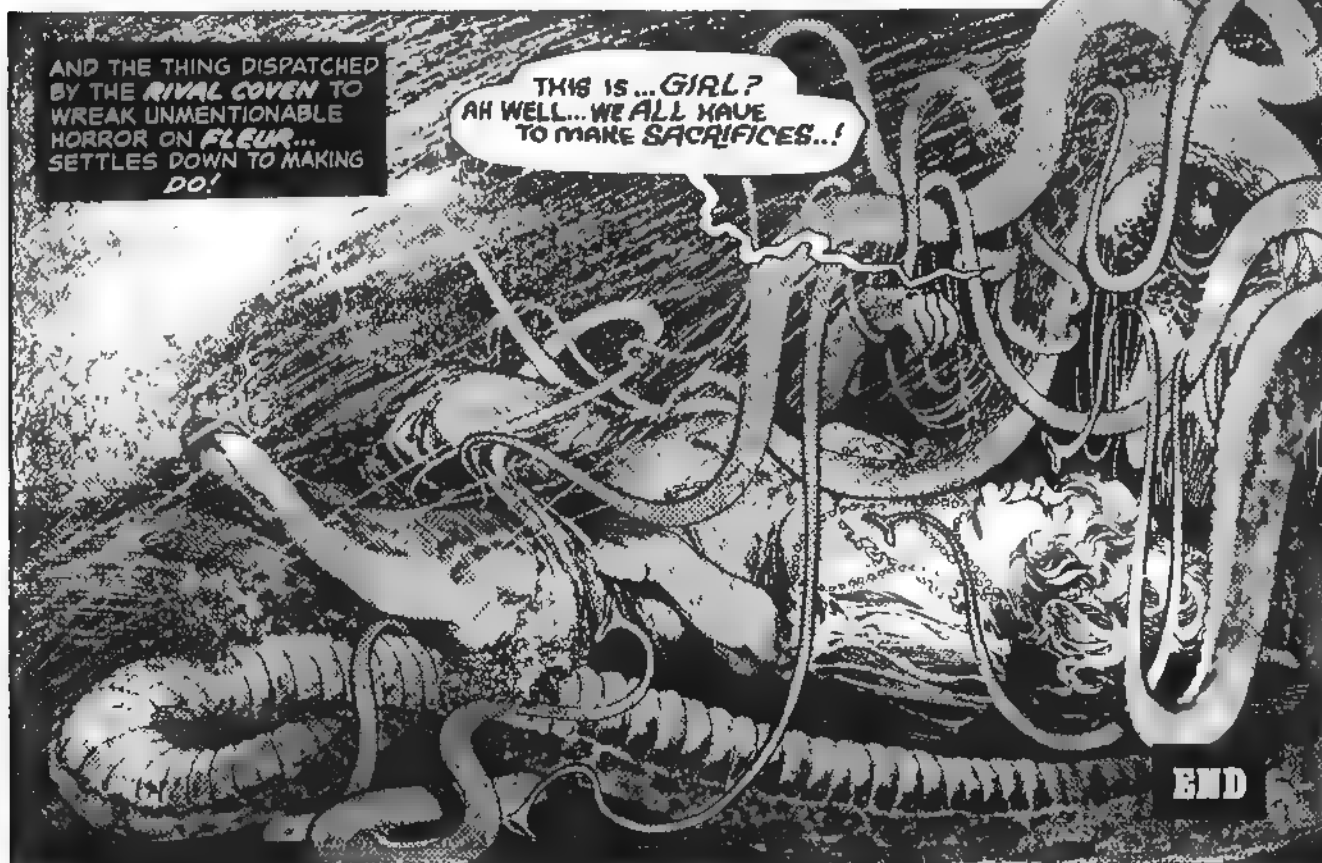
THANK HEAVEN
WE GOT RID OF HIM!
NO TELLING WHAT COULD
HAVE HAPPENED IF HE'D
HUNG AROUND. YOU
BETTER--

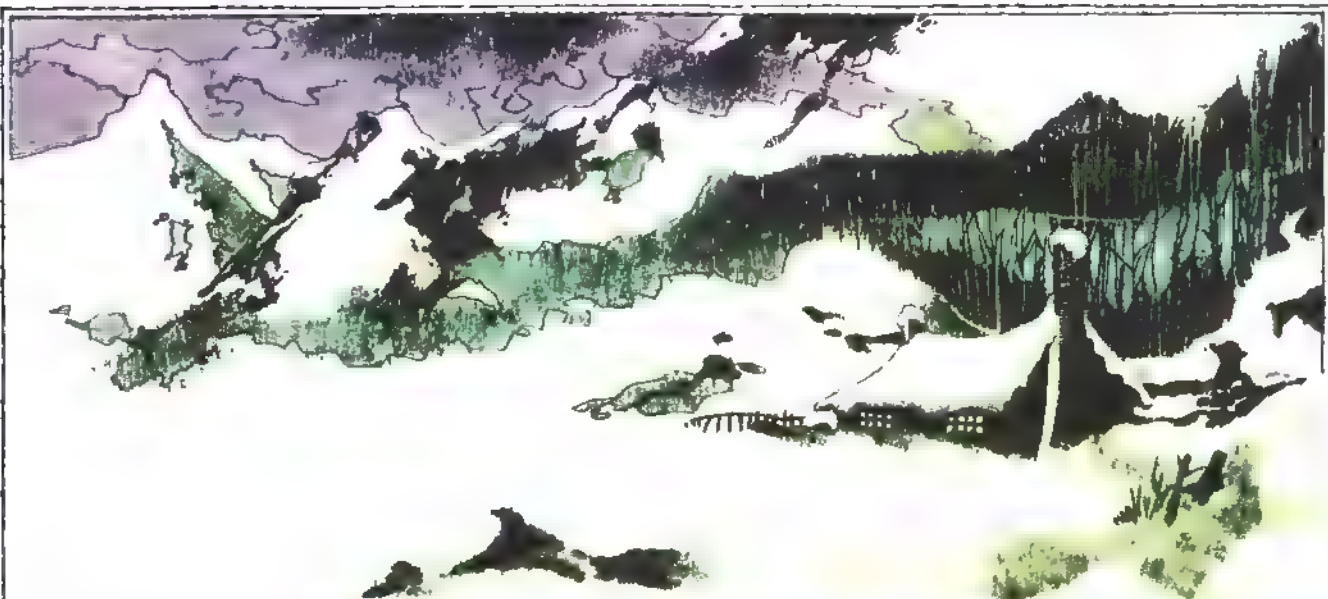
THE BELL!
YOU MEAN THAT MAN
IN 15 HASN'T BEEN
SERVICED YET? BUT HOW
ARE WE GOING TO DO
IT? ALL OF THE GIRLS
ARE ON DUTY.



THERE'S ONLY
ONE ANSWER!
UP YOU GO!

ME!?
WHY ME?!





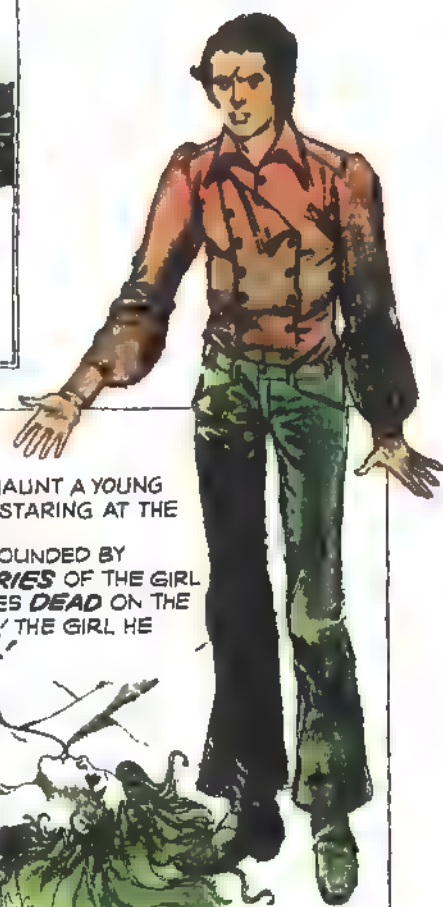
AFTER LONG DAYS
OF WINDDRIVEN
FURY, THE BLIZZARD
IS **OVER**. THE
TRAPPER'S CABIN
CAN BE SEEN, AN
ISOLATED DOT IN
THE ENDLESS
EXPANSE OF
SNOW-GLARE!

PURE AS SNOW

THE DEAD HORSE AND SNOW-COVERED WAGON SUGGEST THE POSSIBILITY OF
LIFE INSIDE!



...OR MAYBE **DEATH!**



THOUGHTS OF **LIFE AND DEATH** INVADE AND HAUNT A YOUNG
MAN... A **BOY**, AS HE STANDS **BY THE** WINDOW, STARING AT THE
FANTASIES IN THE COLD PANES OF GLASS!

HE IS HOUNDED BY
MEMORIES OF THE GIRL
WHO LIES **DEAD** ON THE
FLOOR! THE GIRL HE
LOVED!

HE CAN SEE HER FATHER'S
ANGRY FACE IN THE FROST,
THREATENING HIM WITH SOME
GRIM AND FINAL **PUNISHMENT!**

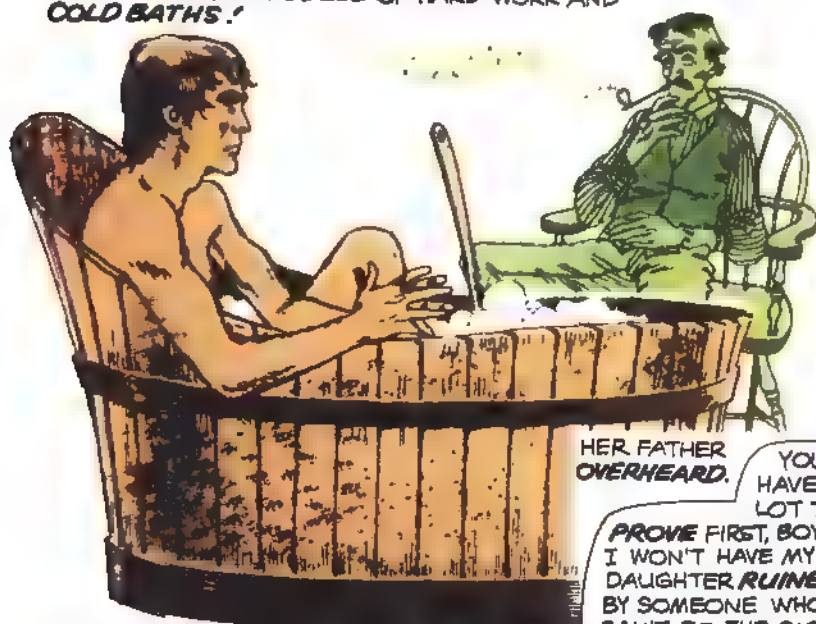
AND THIS MORNING, BEFORE HE DOES WHAT HE
MUST, HE TRIES TO FIND AN **ANSWER!**

THE BOY GREW UP IN A SMALL FARMTOWN. IT WASN'T LONG BEFORE HE Began TO FEEL THE FIRST STIRRINGS OF *DESIRE*.



HIS PARENTS WARNED HIM ABOUT *SIN* AND RESTRICTED HIS LIFE TO A RIGID SCHEDULE OF HARD WORK AND *COLD BATHS*!

HE MET THE GIRL IN *CHURCH*! THEY HAD SEEN EACH OTHER THERE EVERY SUNDAY SINCE THEY WERE KIDS!



HER FATHER OVERHEARD.

YOU HAVE A LOT TO

PROVE FIRST, BOY! I WON'T HAVE MY DAUGHTER RUINED BY SOMEONE WHO CAN'T DO THE RIGHT THING BY HER!

THE GIRL'S SMILES MELTED HIS *AWKWARDNESS*!



FINALLY, HE *PROPOSED*!



NO MATTER WHAT HER FATHER SAID, THE BOY KNEW HE HAD TO SEE HER *AGAIN*!



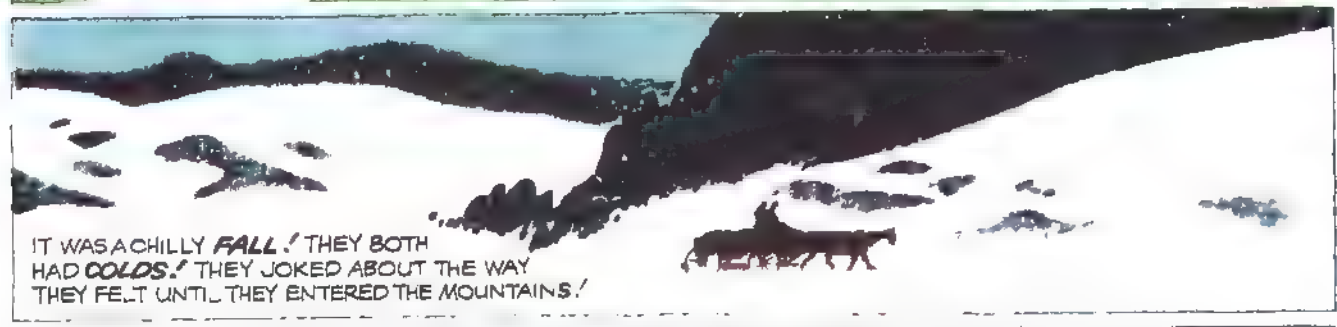
IT WAS A WEEK LATER THAT
THE BOY GOT HIS IDEA...

...TO **ELOPE!**



HE PROMISED THE GIRL HE WOULDN'T TOUCH
HER UNTIL THEY WERE **MARRIED!**

IF YOU
LAY A HAND
ON HER I'LL
KILL YOU!



IT WAS A CHILLY **FALL!** THEY BOTH
HAD **COLDS!** THEY JOKED ABOUT THE WAY
THEY FELT UNTIL THEY ENTERED THE MOUNTAINS!

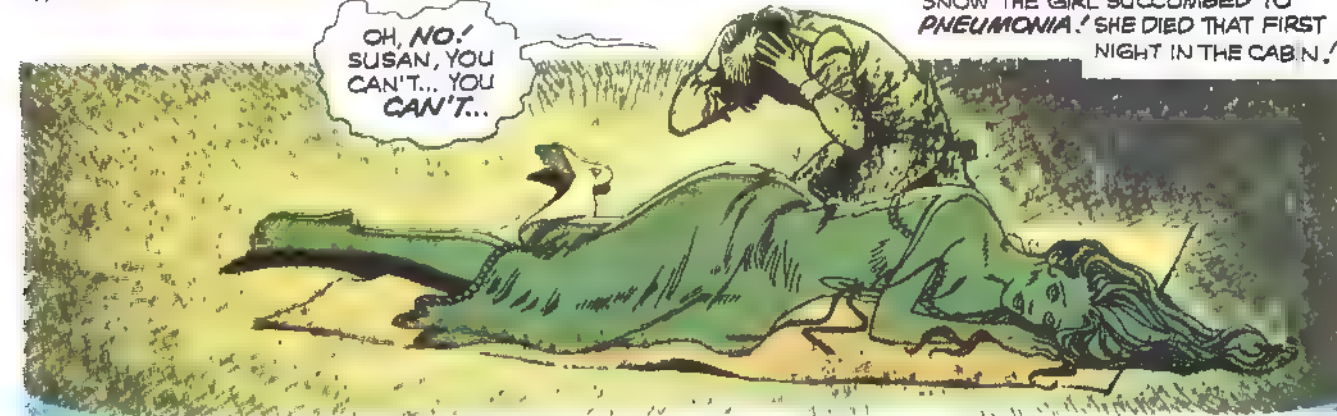


THE **BLIZZARD** CAME UP SO QUICKLY THAT
BEFORE THEY KNEW IT THEY WERE
FLOUNDERING, ALMOST **DROWNING** IN THE
WIND-BLASTED **SNOW!**



THEY WANDERED FOR
DAYS UNTIL THEY FOUND
THE DESERTED CABIN!

SHIVERING AND DRENCHED WITH
SNOW THE GIRL SUCCUMBED TO
PNEUMONIA! SHE DIED THAT FIRST
NIGHT IN THE CABIN!



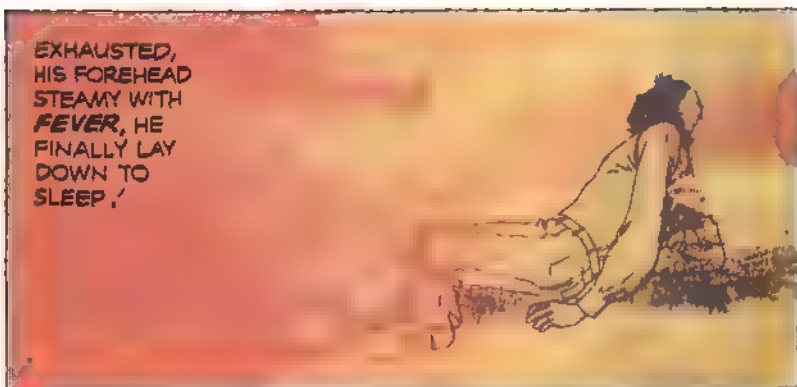
OH, **NO!**
SUSAN, YOU
CAN'T... YOU
CAN'T...

THE BOY'S THOUGHTS **RAMBLED!** THE WIND OUTSIDE WAS LIKE A CHORUS OF ANGRY **ACCUSERS!** AND THE GIRL LAY SILENT, UNABLE TO **DEFEND** HIM!



SHE SEEMED
MORE
BEAUTIFUL
THAN BEFORE!

EXHAUSTED,
HIS FOREHEAD
STEAMY WITH
FEVER, HE
FINALLY LAY
DOWN TO
SLEEP!



BUT THE SNOW SKITTERING AGAINST THE WINDOW KEPT HIM **AWAKE!** IN THE DWELLING FIRELIGHT HE COULD SEE HER BODY'S GREY, FLICKERING **SHADOW** ON THE WALL! WAS SHE **MOVING?**



THEN, HE **SLEPT...** BUT SLEEP BROUGHT **NIGHTMARES!**

AT LAST HE CRAWLED ACROSS THE ROOM TO HER SIDE, DRAWN BY A MIXTURE OF **LONELINESS, FEVER** AND **DESIRE!**



MY
DARLING...

MURDERER!
GET YOUR HOT
FILTHY HANDS
OFF HER!



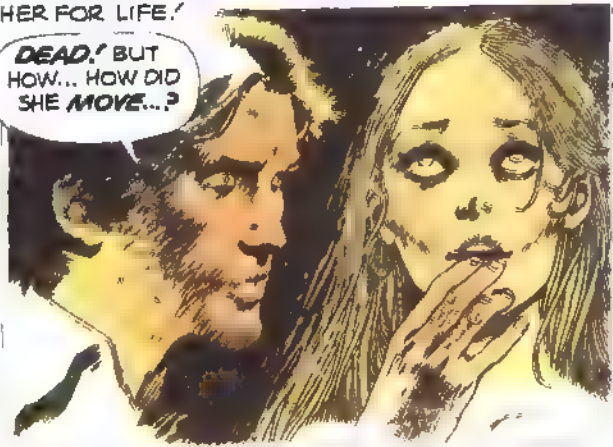
WHEN HE AWOKE, **ANOTHER** NIGHTMARE BEGAN!



MY
GOD!

WAS SHE **ALIVE?** HOPE DROVE HIM TO HER SIDE,
ONLY TO COME CRASHING DOWN AGAIN AS HE TESTED
HER FOR LIFE!

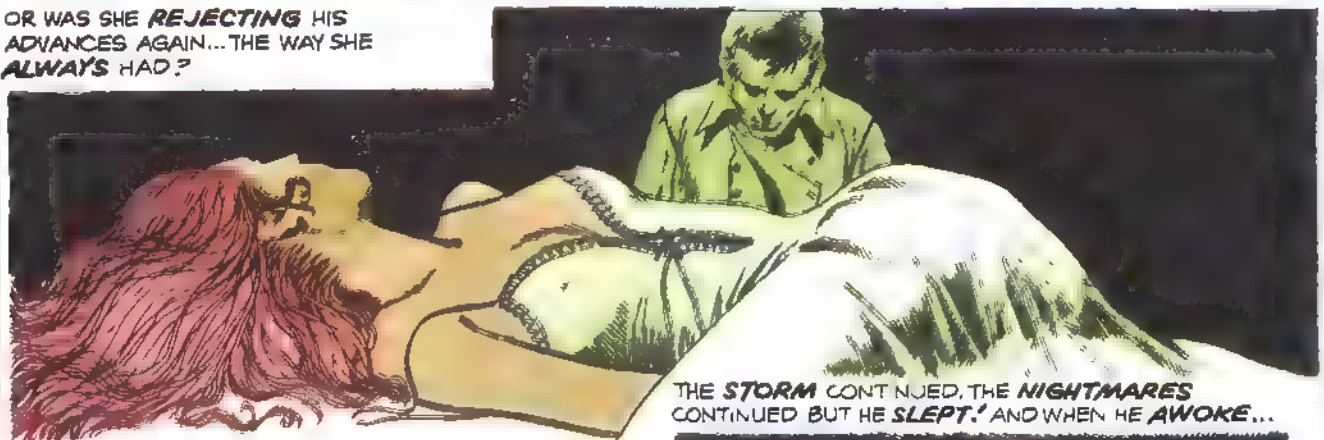
DEAD! BUT
HOW... HOW DID
SHE **MOVE...**?



SHE WASN'T AS HEAVY AS HE EXPECTED, / COULD HE HAVE
MOVED HER IN HIS SLEEP? OR WAS THIS ALL A FEVER **DREAM?**



OR WAS SHE **REJECTING** HIS
ADVANCES AGAIN... THE WAY SHE
ALWAYS HAD?



THE **STORM** CONT NUED, THE **NIGHTMARES**
CONTINUED BUT HE **SLEPT.** AND WHEN HE **AWOKE...**

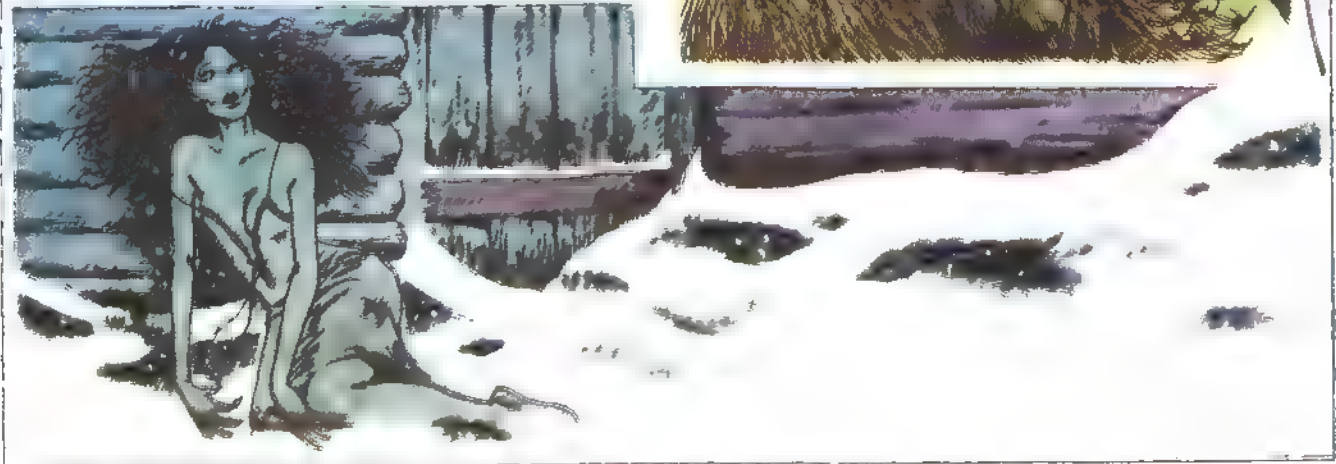
IT WAS STILL **DARK** OUT, / HE RESOLVED TO PUT THE
QUESTIONS AS DE UNTIL **MORNING.**



HIS THOUGHTS **CLEARED** MOMENTARILY, / TEARS
STREAMING FROM HIS NARROWED EYES, HE DRAGGED
THE GIRL'S BODY **OUTSIDE.** HE HAD TO **KNOW...**



S-SHE
Moved!



HE MADE SURE HE **COULDN'T** MOVE HER HIMSELF. HE WISHED HE COULD **ANCHOR** HIS **MIND**, AS HE ANCHORED HIS FEET AGAINST THE INEVITABLE FEVERISH **NIGHTMARES!**



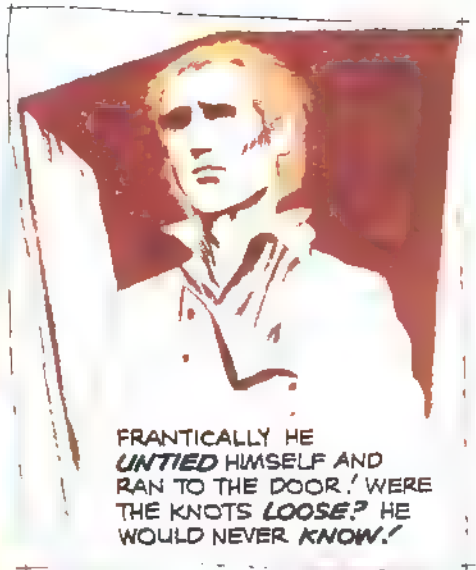
IT WAS NO USE. AFTER SNAPPING ITS REINS, THE HORSE HAD ONLY ENOUGH STRENGTH TO **DRAG** ITSELF TO THE CABIN, BEFORE **COLLAPSING!**

IT WAS **FREEZING** TO DEATH.



C'MON, BOY!
GET UP!

AGAIN HE FELL INTO A DEEP PYRETIC **SLEEP!** FEINT **SHUFFLING** SOUNDS OF SOMETHING BEING DRAGGED **OUTSIDE**, WOKE HIM!



FRANTICALLY HE **UNTIED** HIMSELF AND RAN TO THE DOOR. WERE THE KNOTS **LOOSE?** HE WOULD NEVER **KNOW!**

FEELING TRAPPED, BLAMING HIMSELF FOR THE HORSE'S DEATH, THE BOY BACKED INTO THE CABIN, **RECOILING** AS HE STEPPED ON SOMETHING **SOFT!**



AT THE **SIGHT** OF HER THE BOY **SURRENDERED** TO THE FEVER BUBBLING IN HIS MIND.



YOU'VE
COME BACK!
IT CAN'T
BE!



WHEN I
COME TO YOU,
YOU *MOVE*
AWAY!



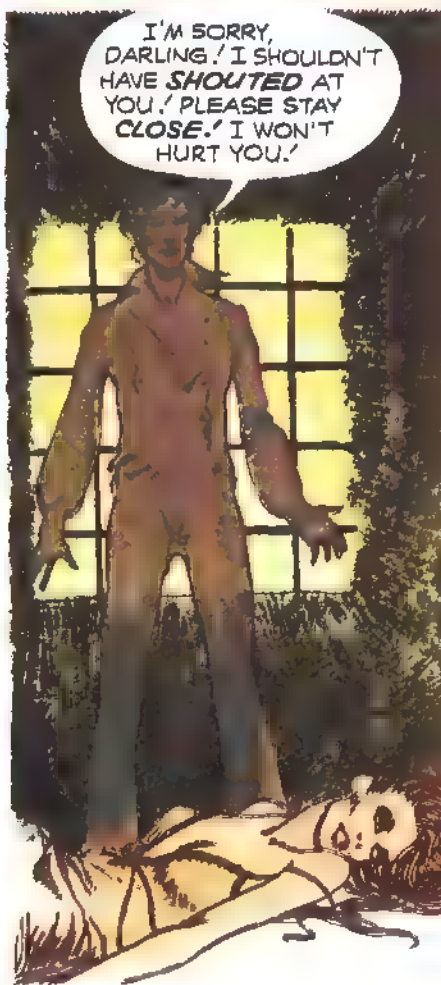
WHEN I PUT YOU
OUTSIDE, YOU
CAME *BACK*!



YOU KNOW I
LOVE YOU AND YOU
WON'T LEAVE ME
ALONE!

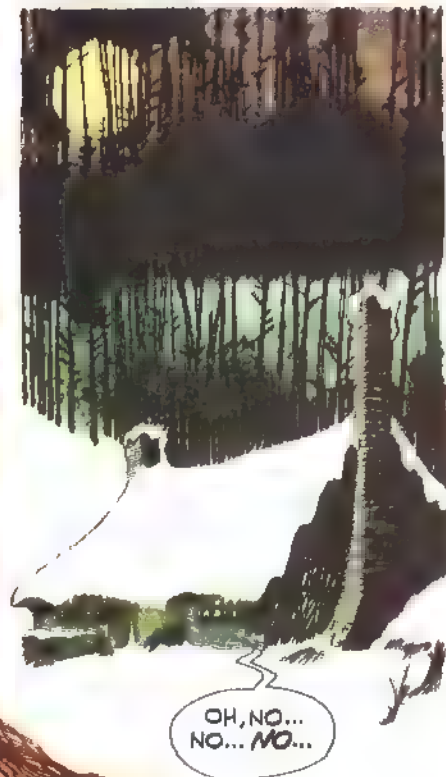


WHAT DO YOU *WANT*
FROM ME? I'VE TOLD YOU
I *LOVE* YOU! I'VE DONE
THE BEST I COULD TO
TAKE CARE OF YOU!



I'M SORRY,
DARLING! I SHOULDN'T
HAVE *SHOUTED* AT
YOU! PLEASE STAY
CLOSE! I WON'T
HURT YOU!

THE NEXT MORNING THE *STORM*
WAS OVER, AND HIS LOVE HAD
ELUDED HIM AGAIN!



OH, NO...
NO... *NO*...

HE WATCHED HER WHILE HE PUT ON HIS COAT. HE LOVED HER. BUT HE KNEW THERE WAS ONLY **ONE** THING HE COULD DO.

SICK, LIGHT-HEADED FROM HUNGER, HE WAS DETERMINED TO DO WHAT HE HAD TO...OR **DIE.**

THIS IS THE
LAST PART OF
OUR **JOURNEY**
TOGETHER.



WE'LL
FIND A
PRIEST!

THEN YOU
WON'T HAVE TO
KEEP **RUNNING**
FROM ME...



WE'LL HAVE
HIM **MARRY**
US!



WE'LL
FINALLY BE
ABLE TO...

...SLEEP
TOGETHER.





WHEN A CERTAIN WIDOW LEARNED THE TERRIBLE *SECRET* OF THE SCHOOLMASTER'S SUBTERRANEAN VAULT, SHE *FLED* IN *TERROR* ...WITH HER ONLY CHILD!

THE NIGHT RAN RED WITH GORE

MAMA! MAMA! HELP ME! DON'T LET HIM HURT ME!

THERE, THERE, DEAR CHILD... I'LL SOON TAKE CARE OF YOU AND EVERYTHING WILL BE ALL RIGHT!



IT WAS IN APRIL OF 1854, IN THE FAIR-SIZED TOWN OF CLUJ, IN THE CARPATHIAN MOUNTAINS, THERE WAS SOMETHING *FRIGHTFUL* ABOUT SCHOOLMASTER FRANZ KAPOYLA'S HIDDEN VAULT THAT ONLY *ONE* PARENT, MAGDA HORTZA, DISCOVERED...

I'LL GET YOU, WITCH... AND I'LL TAKE THAT CHILD FROM YOU!

RUN, VERNA...! RUN UPSTAIRS, MY BABY!





HURRY, MAMA!

RUN OUT TO THE BUGGY... I'LL BE RIGHT BEHIND YOU!

MAMA, I'M AFRAID! WILL I HAVE TO GO BACK TO MR. KAPOYLA'S SCHOOL?

I'M AFRAID, TOO, VERNA. WE'RE GOING A LONG WAY FROM HERE!

**F. KAPOYLA
PRIVATE SCHOOL**



BUT MAGDA HORTZA WAS WRONG! FOR EVEN AT THAT MOMENT...



THEY'RE GONE! BUT THEY CAN'T ESCAPE ME... I'LL GET THEM BOTH!

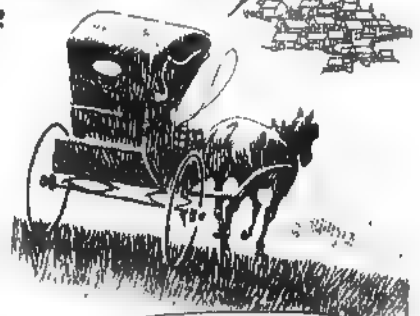
MAGDA HORTZA WAS **UNEASY** THAT MISERABLE RAINY AFTERNOON, WHEN LITTLE VERNA FAILED TO COME OUT OF THE SCHOOLHOUSE WITH HER CLASSMATES. SHE SEARCHED **FRANTICALLY** WHEN SHE SAW THE SINGLE CLASSROOM WAS **ABANDONED**...



GET IN THE BUGGY, VERNA! YOU'LL BE SOAKING WET...

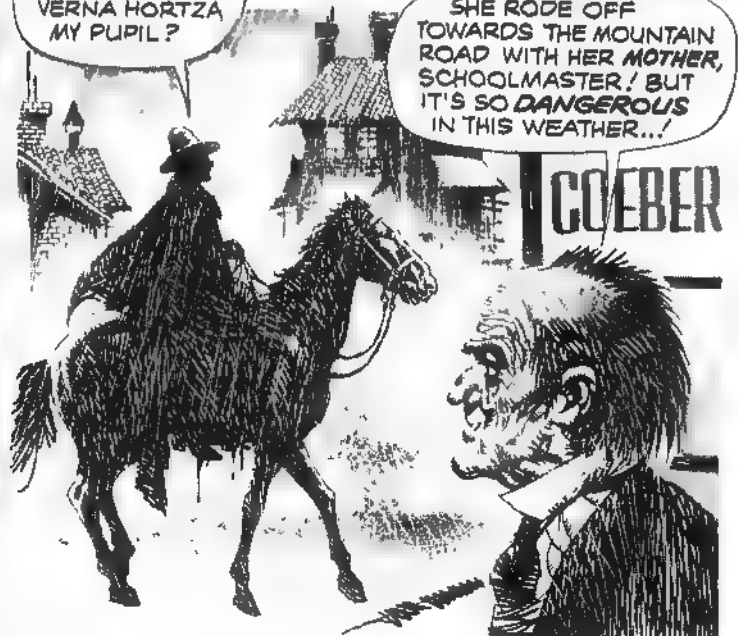
MAGDA HORTZA THOUGHT ONLY OF HER DAUGHTER'S **SAFETY** AS SHE DROVE ACROSS MUDDY MOUNTAIN ROADS TOWARDS **BUDAPEST**, SEVERAL DAYS RIDE AWAY...

SLEEP, VERNA... HE WON'T FOLLOW US!



COEBER...! DID YOU SEE VERNA HORTZA MY PUPIL?

SHE RODE OFF TOWARDS THE MOUNTAIN ROAD WITH HER MOTHER, SCHOOLMASTER! BUT IT'S SO DANGEROUS IN THIS WEATHER...



COEBER



HE'S GOING
THE **SAME**
WAY.' HAS
EVERYBODY
GONE CRAZY?

IT WAS **DARK** BY THE TIME MAGDA STOPPED FOR
THE NIGHT AT A LODGING HOUSE.



HERE! YOUR
MONEY IN
ADVANCE. AND
THIS IS
IMPORTANT... A
MATTER OF **LIFE**
AND **DEATH...**
YOU ARE NOT TO
TELL **ANYONE**
WE ARE HERE!

YOU HAVE MY
PROMISE, MY DEAR!
AND IF THERE'S
ANYTHING **ELSE** I CAN
DO FOR YOU...

THE MOTHER AND DAUGHTER WEARILY CLIMBED TO
THEIR ROOM, WHERE LITTLE VERA SOON FELL INTO
A DEEP **SLEEP!** MAGDA LAY WIDE AWAKE...



I CAN'T SLEEP...
I'M **TERRIFIED**
MR. KAPOYLA WILL
COME HERE AND..

S-SOMEONE'S
OPENING THE DOOR!
HE'S **HERE!** HOW
COULD HE HAVE
FOUND US SO
FAST?

I'VE BEEN
THINKING. YOU'VE
PAID ME **NOTHING**
FOR MY SILENCE!
YOU HAVE
MONEY...?

OTHERWISE, I'LL HAVE
TO TELL **WHOEVER** MAY
ASK FOR YOU WHERE
YOU **ARE!**



NO... PLEASE...
I'LL... **CHOKE!** -
ANYTHING YOU
W-WANT!



LOVELY!
GOLD IS MY
FAVORITE
COLOR!

T-TAKE
IT... BUT TELL
NO ONE WE'RE
HERE....!

YOU'LL
KEEP YOUR
PROMISE...?



YOU HAVE
MY **WORD**, MY
DEAR!

LATER, JUST PAST MIDNIGHT, VERNA HEARD VOICES BELOW. SHE STEPPED OUT OF THE ROOM. ONE VOICE FILLED HER WITH DREAD...

IS THERE A YOUNG WOMAN HERE WITH HER DAUGHTER... A NINE-YEAR-OLD?

SUCH INFORMATION IS **CONFIDENTIAL**, SIR... UNLESS YOU... ER...



MAMA! WAKE UP, MAMA! MR. KAPOYLA IS HERE, COMING UPSTAIRS...

LOCK THE DOOR, VERNA... QUICKLY!



HERE...! A HUNDRED KRONEN SHOULD OVERCOME YOUR SCRUPLES!

IF YOU SPEAK OF THE PRETTY BLONDE LADY AND HER DAUGHTER, THEY ARE ON THE NEXT FLOOR ... ROOM 205!



MAGDA FRANTICALLY KNOTTED SHEETS AND SPREADS TOGETHER AS SHE HEARD THE STAIRS CREAK UNDER THE SCHOOLMASTER'S SLOW CAREFUL TREAD..

CAREFUL, MY DEAR ONE. I'LL HAVE TO GET OUR HORSE AND BUGGY!

DON'T LEAVE ME MAMA...



CURSE THAT WOMAN...! SHE'S FLED AGAIN WITH THE GIRL!



DAMN HER...! SHE'S DRIVING MY HORSE OFF!



NEXT MORNING, HOURS AFTER FRANZ KAPOYLA RODE OFF ON A HORSE HE TOOK FROM THE STABLE BEHIND THE INN, THE CLERK DISCOVERED HIS STABLEHAND... DEAD!

...AND AFTER THE MOTHER AND DAUGHTER FLED, I KNEW I'D MADE A MISTAKE OPENING THE DOOR FOR HIM. AT LEAST THEY GOT AWAY!

THAT'S MORE THAN YOU CAN SAY FOR THIS POOR FELLOW. I'M GOING TO HAVE TO DESTROY HIM!

GO ON, ARPAD...! GET IT OVER WITH. DRIVE THAT STAKE THROUGH HIS HEART!

NEVER MIND THE CHILD AND HER MOTHER. DESCRIBE THE MAN WHO WAS AFTER THEM!

IF YOU CAN IMAGINE WHAT A VAMPIRE LOOKS LIKE, YOU CAN PICTURE THAT MAN!

YOU'LL HAVE TO DESCRIBE HIM BETTER THAN THAT!

FRANZ KAPOYLA RODE THE FRESH HORSE HARD. HE WAS SURE HE WAS GAINING ON HIS QUARRY... UNTIL HE CAME TO A FORK IN THE UNPAVED HIGHWAY...

YOU SAW THEM IN THAT BUGGY? GOOD. WHICH FORK DID THEY TAKE?

THE FAR ONE, SIR. ABOUT AN HOUR AGO OR MORE...

AS SOON AS KAPOYLA WAS OUT OF SIGHT, THE FARMER WENT TO THE BACK OF HIS FARMHOUSE.

I'M SURE THE MAN WAS THE VAMPIRE YOU DESCRIBED. YOU'LL GO FAR OUT OF HIS REACH IF YOU TAKE THE ROAD FORK NEAREST THIS HOUSE...! THAT DEVIL, LUSTING FOR A CHILD'S BLOOD...!

THANK YOU SO MUCH. YOU'VE SAVED MY DAUGHTER...

WE'RE FREE OF HIM NOW, MY DEAREST. IN BUDAPEST THINGS WILL BE BETTER. IT'S A BIG CITY, VERNA... HE WON'T FIND US THERE!

KAPOYLA'S ROAD CARRIED HIM HIGHER INTO THE MOUNTAIN, BUT WHEN HE GLANCED BY CHANCE DOWN INTO THE VALLEY...

THEY TRICKED ME! BUT MADAME HORTZA'S MISTAKE IS THAT SHE NO DOUBT FEELS SAFE NOW...!

MAGDA AND VERNA HORTZA WERE DESTINED TO BE **INTERCEPTED** BEFORE THEY COULD REACH **BUDAPEST!** THEY ARRIVED IN ANOTHER LARGE TRANSYLVANIAN TOWN, **SIBIU**, LATE THE FOLLOWING DAY....

POOR LITTLE GIRL! SHE'S HAD A LONG HARD RIDE! **SLEPT** THROUGH IT ALL, TOO, BUT I MUST **STOP SOON...**



A GOOD MEAL, A HOT BATH, AND A WARM BED... I'LL FEEL LIKE A NEW PERSON!

SHE SIGNED THE INN'S REGISTER, ASKED FOR HER HORSE AND BUGGY TO BE LOOKED AFTER, THEN WENT TO HER **ROOM...**



HMMM...THE **ATTIC!** NOT VERY COMFORTABLE, BUT IT'S A **ROOF** OVER OUR HEADS FOR THE **NIGHT!**

I'LL HAVE MY **DINNER** WHILE **VERNA** IS ASLEEP. SHE CAN EAT **LATER...**

BUT **FATE** TURNED ITS HAND **AGAINST** THE FUGITIVE MOTHER AND DAUGHTER. THE RELENTLESS HUNTER ONCE AGAIN **TRACKED** THEM **DOWN...**



THIS TIME I'LL **GET** THE GIRL...! THIS TIME I'LL BE VERY **CAREFUL!**

FIVE KRONEN NOW... FIVE LATER! YOU SEE TO IT THAT RIG CANNOT BE **MOVED** TONIGHT!



IT WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE WITH A **WHEEL OFF**, SIR... THOUGH I CAN'T **IMAGINE** WHO'D DO A THING LIKE **THAT!**



P-PLEASE
DONT **HURT**
ME...

I DON'T **WANT**
TO, VERNA... BUT I
MUST!

MAGDA HORTZA POUNCED LIKE A TIGRESS
DEFENDING HER YOUNG. IN A FLASH, HER
TWISTED, TIGHTLY-GRIPPED HEADPIECE CAME
DOWN IN FRONT OF FRANZ KAPOYLA'S FACE...

...CUTTING OFF HIS
BREATH... SLOWLY
CHOKING HIM...

WHEN SHE
RELEASED THE
CLOTH, KAPOYLA
FELL FORWARD
WEAKENED,
FAINT... DROPPING
THE **HAMMER**
AND **STAKE**
UNDER HIS
CLOAK!

THERE
DARLING...
DRINK!

DRINK HIS
BLOOD SO YOU
CAN LIVE
THROUGH
ANOTHER DAY!

YOU **SEE**,
MAMA NEVER LETS
YOU GO **HUNGRY!**
LAST NIGHT YOU
DRANK THE BLOOD
OF THE STABLEHAND
BACK IN CLUJ...

... **TONIGHT**
YOU DRINK FROM
THE VEINS OF A
VERY DANGEROUS
VAMPIRE
HUNTER!

HAVING DRAINED THE SCHOOLMASTER **DRY**, VERNA
TURNED GREEDILY TO HER **MOTHER**...

HOW **FOOLISH**, MY
DEAR! WHO WOULD LOOK
AFTER YOU? IF YOU'RE
STILL HUNGRY, DRESS
AND WE'LL GO SEE **WHO**
ELSE WE CAN FIND!

A TOUCHING STORY OF **MOTHERLY**
LOVE... AND OF THE DASTARDLY STALKER
OF THOSE WHO MUST HAVE **BLOOD**...! SWEET
VERNA REMINDS ME OF **MYSELF** AS A CHILD...

PROLOGUE

A GRIM TIME, THESE EARLY 1800's... THE DOGS OF **WAR** RUN RAMPANT IN EUROPE, THEIR HOWLING FURY LEAVING NO ONE **UNTOUCHED**, STRIKING GOOD AND EVIL, RICH AND POOR, SUNDERING FRIENDS, FAMILIES... AND **LOVERS**...
LOVERS LIKE HANS AND EVA...

REMEMBER, DARLING,
THEY **PHYSICALLY** PART
US... BUT NOTHING, **NO ONE**
CAN SEVER THE **LOVE**
WE HAVE...

NOT **EVEN** THIS
MONSTROUS WAR! I'LL
COME **BACK**... TO BE
WITH YOU **FOREVER!**

HANS CAME TO HER
ONE **LAST** TIME...
BRIGHT, GLEAMING,
IN HIS **UNIFORM!**

THEN, WHERE
ALL HAD BEEN
ROMANCE
AND **LIGHT**...

...**DARKNESS**
AND DESPAIR
SETTLED.
THE ONLY
BRIGHT SPOT
WAS THE
LETTERS...

"While my absence
lasts, Eva, my sweet,
you will always
have these letters.
Take them with
you to the grove,
our grove..."

"Read them under the trees
which have witnessed our
great love since that
first day we carved our
names upon them..."

"Only my memories
of you let me live
amid the
horror
and
death..."



"...that
daily
surround
me."



"Only the thought
of those first days
of our unbroken
love lets me dare
to be happy..."



"Only imagining that each warm
afternoon, as the sun is start-
ing to disappear and long
shadows begin to cover the
woods, you go smiling and
expectant to that lovely grove
to keep our..."

RENDEZVOUS!

"... am I able,
dear Eva, to
be certain I
shall return
to you!"



AND *MOST* IN THE VILLAGE DO. BUT NOT *ALL* SHARE IN THE COMPASSION, THE UNDERSTANDING. SOME LOOK ON HER WITH *OTHER* EYES. EYES THAT IN THE NIGHT SEEK THE ILLUMINATED WINDOW OF *EVA*'S BED CHAMBER. PRYING, *EAGER* EYES PEERING FROM DEEP SHADOW, LIKE AN ANIMAL WAITING PATIENTLY FOR...

...ITS *PREY*!



NOW, EVA MAINTAINS THESE PILGRIMAGES FAITHFULLY, NOT **RETURNING** FROM THE GROVE UNTIL IT HAS GROWN TOO **DARK** TO CONTINUE HER DAILY RITUAL...

SOON... **SOON**... HANS,
MY LOVE... ALL WILL BE
EXACTLY AS BEFORE! MEAN-
TIME, YOUR **LETTERS**
MUST DO...



**TAP
TAP**

**TAP
TAP
TAP**



HANS WOULD
BE LAUGHING ..
SHOUTING
BY NOW ..

TAP... TAP... TAP... TAP...

HANS, IF IT'S
YOU... WHY DON'T
YOU **ENTER?** WHY
KEEP **KNOCKING...**
KNOCKING...

SUDDENLY, EVA'S WILDLY
BEATING HEART **SLOWS**.
HER CLENCHED WHITE
HANDS **RELAX**. FLARING
HOPE AND UNCERTAIN
VISIONS BEGIN TO **DIE**.

BUT THE **DOOR**,
MOVED RHYTHMI-
CALLY BY THE
NIGHT BREEZE,
BEATS ON,
HEEDLESS OF
THE **DRAMA**
IT CREATED,
OBLIVIOUS TO
THE **PAIN** IT
HAS WROUGHT.

PAIN, AND...

...TEARS.

AGAIN... THERE COMES A
TAPPING AT EVA'S DOOR...

HANS!
PLEASE,
GOD...



PLEASE...
LET IT BE *HIM*!
I KNOW I *LATCHED*
THE DOOR...

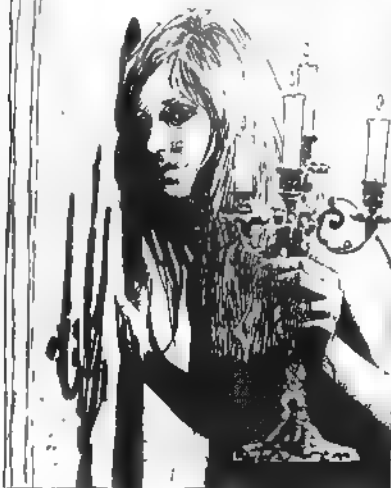
THIS TIME
IT *COULDN'T* BE
THE DOOR!



EVA'S HEART *POUNDS!* TO DISCOVER
YET ANOTHER *ILLUSION*, ANOTHER
FALSE HOPE, WOULD BE UNBEARABLE.
THE TAPPING *SWELLS* LOUDLY, OMINOUSLY!
WOULD *HANS* DO THAT...? IT COULD BE
ANYONE...THIEF, FUGITIVE, *MANIAC*!
SOFTLY, SLOWLY, EVA EDGES FROM HER
BEDROOM, TREMBLING AND FEARFUL,
PRAYING FOR EVEN THE *SLIGHTEST*
ENCOURAGING SIGN...



AND ABRUPTLY...THE
KNOCKING *CEASES!*



A VIOLENT GUST OF *WIND* BEATS
AT THE CANDLE FLAMES...



...AND THE
FOREBODING
WITHIN HER
GROWS IN
SWIFT,
BOUNTING
LEAPS!

W-WHO...?





I-I *KNOW* SOMEONE MUST BE *THERE...*!

GOD! LET IT BE--



THE LATCH *OPENED* FROM MY POUNDING, EVA...

IT IS *FAULTY!*

YOU NEED A *MAN...* TO *FIX* SUCH THINGS.



FRANZ MÜLLER! HOW *DARE* YOU COME INTO MY *HOME*. UNBIDDEN AND *UNWANTED!*

THE *SHARPNESS* OF HER RESPONSE SURPRISES EVEN EVA...AND TRIGGERS *FRANZ* INTO AN EMOTIONAL *FURY!*

YES... *YES*, I *DARE!* BECAUSE I WON'T LET YOU BE *WASTED* ANY LONGER ON SOME FOOLISH *DREAM!*



HERR MÜLLER! LET ME GO! ARE YOU *MAD?* IF *HANS* EVER--



PRECIOUS *HANS* IS EITHER *DEAD...* OR IN THE ARMS OF SOME *CAMP FOLLOWER!*

IT'S NOT *TRUE!*

HANS WILL *RETURN...* AND HE'LL *KILL* YOU FOR THIS!



YOU'LL NEVER HAVE ME...*NEVER!*

DESPERATION GIVES
EVA **STRENGTH...**
STRENGTH TO **FIGHT**
AND TO...

...**FLEE!**



TO SCRAMBLE
WILDLY,
INSTINCTIVELY...

...FOR THE
ONLY PLACE
THAT HAS
EVER
PROVIDED
COMFORT,
SECURITY...

...THE
GROVE!



HE'S NOT **BEHIND**
ME! I-I MUST HAVE
ELUDED HIM!
THANK GOD!
HERE OF ALL
PLACES I
SHOULD BE--



SAFE?
DON'T YOU
FEAR **GHOSTS**
IN THESE
DARK
WOODS?



DON'T
YOU **LONG**
FOR STRONG
ARMS TO
PROTECT
YOU?



NOOO!



I HAVE
THOSE ARMS,
EVA... **NOT** SOME
HALF-REMEMBERED
PHANTOM LIKE
HANS!

ARMS TO
HOLD... TO
FONDLE... TO
CRUSH AND..

NO!
NO!

WITH A LAST FRANTIC EFFORT,
EVA SCRATCHES...AND **SHOVES!**



UUNGH!
VIXEN! FOR
THAT I'LL--



CHUK!



THERE IS A TOUCH
LIKE **ICE** IN
FRANZ
MÜLLER'S
HEART...



THEN...

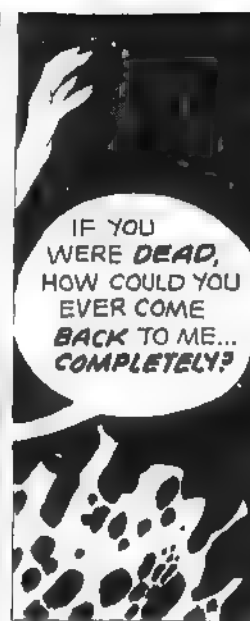
THERE IS
NOTHING...



...EXCEPT THE
SOLDIER STANDING
STILL, MOONLIGHT
GLINTING ON THE
BRASS AND BRAID
OF HIS UNIFORM,
IMPECCABLE AS THE
DAY HE DONNED IT.

HANS...MY
DARLING! I KNEW
WHEN I NEEDED
YOU, YOU'D BE HERE!
AND HE DARED SUG-
GEST YOU WERE
DEAD!





THE SOLDIER IN THE SHADOWS DOES NOT **ANSWER**...HE ONLY **STARES**...



... MUCH AS HE STARED THE DAY EVA **KILLED** HIM RATHER THAN LET HIM RIDE OFF TO WAR.

TRUE, YOU HAVE BEEN **COLD**... DISTANT... SINCE THAT LAST DAY... BUT YOUR HELP TO-NIGHT GIVES ME NEW **HOPE**...

...IF I FAITHFULLY KEEP OUR **RENDEZVOUS** EACH DAY...

...YOU **WILL** RETURN, I KNOW! FULLY...COMPLETELY... AS YOU WERE **BEFORE**! RETURN... TO BE MINE... **FOREVER**!

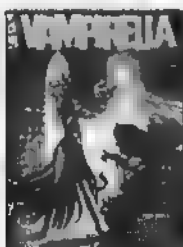
SCREAMING YOUR HEAD OFF BECAUSE YOU'RE MISSING...

VAMPIRELLA

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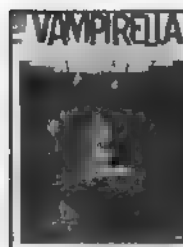
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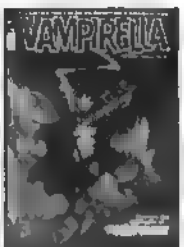
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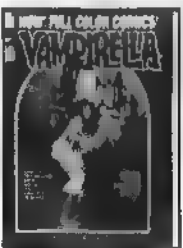
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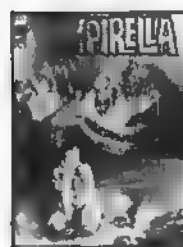
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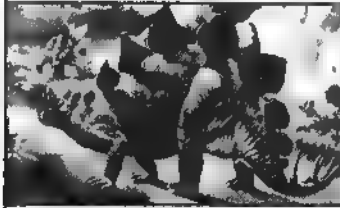
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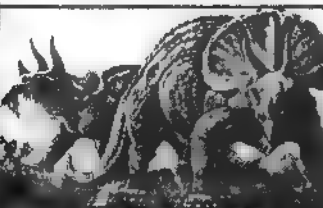
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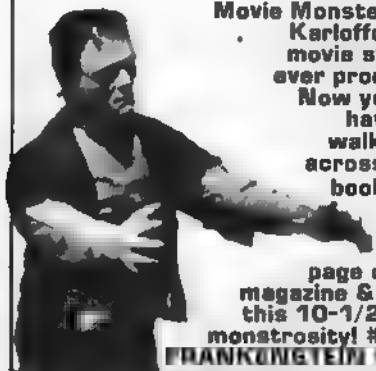
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Turn to

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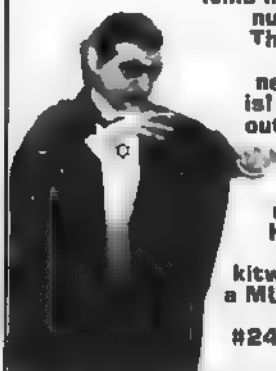


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That's what this model of the nefarious Count is! His hands are outstretched, as he beckons his next victim! It might be YOU!

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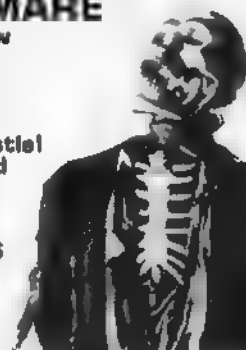
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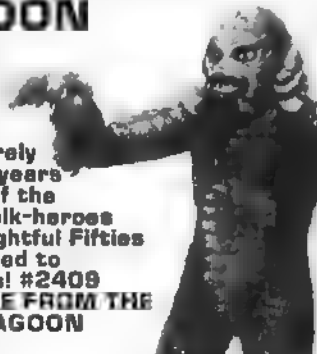
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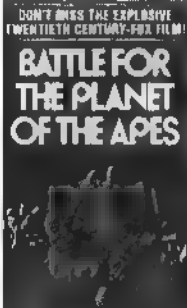
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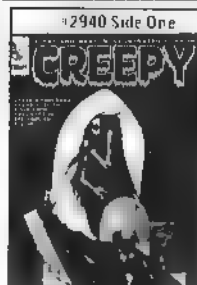


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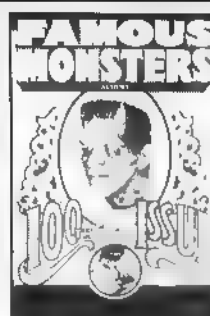
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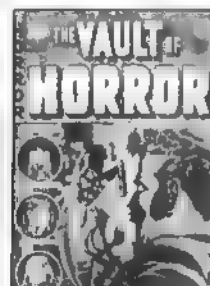
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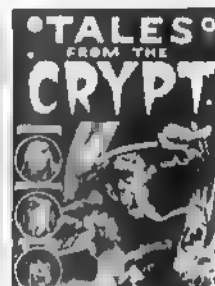
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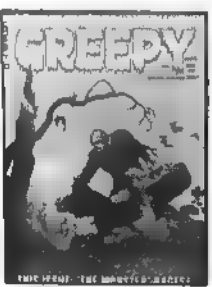
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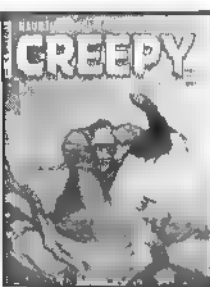
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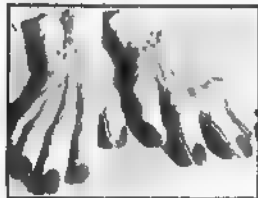


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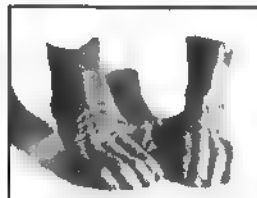


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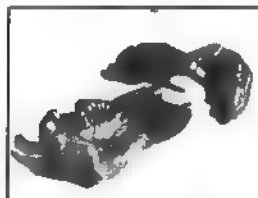
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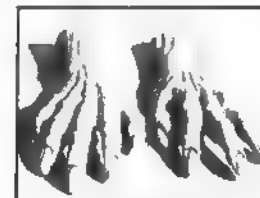
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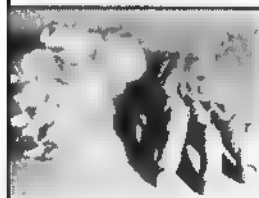
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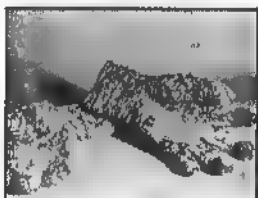
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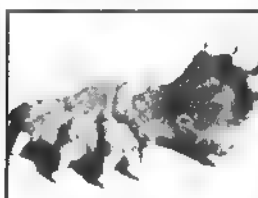
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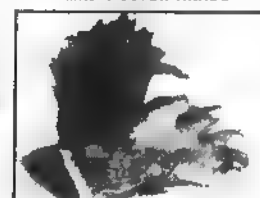
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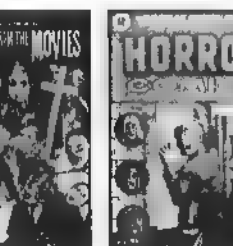
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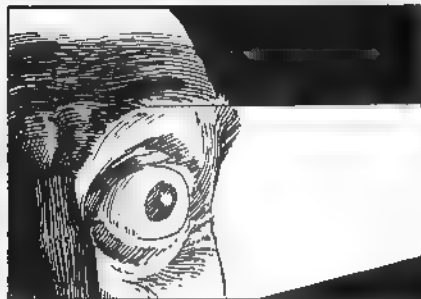
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In supernatural technicolor and black and white! Christopher Lee as one of the greatest Frankenstein monsters ever! 200' reel. For the BLACK & WHITE film, specify #2222, REVENGE OF FRANKENSTEIN \$7.49. For the TECHNICOLOR film, specify #2223, REVENGE OF FRANKENSTEIN \$15.95



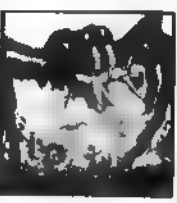
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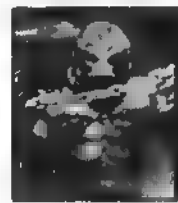
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A mad scientist's experiments with a small spider and it grows monstrously huge and ravages first the lab and then the city and keeps on growing—and devouring! 200' reel. #2203 TARANTULA \$7.99



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Down from the heavens swoops a gigantic mantis to prey upon all humanity and wreak doomsday destruction upon all in its path! 200' reel. #1204 THE DEADLY MANTIS \$7.99



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In the steaming depths of the Amazon's Black Lagoon, a gill-man creature from 150 million years ago prowls! 200' reel. #2205 CREATURE FROM BLACK LAGOON \$7.99



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Conjured up by the devil-worshipping cult of the evil Dr. Kaswell, to wreak its unleashed terror upon mankind! 200' reel. #2206 CURSE OF THE DEMON \$7.99



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The excellent sequel to the film classic, KING KONG, with special effects again by Willis O'Brien. Truly memorable! 200' reel. #2208 SON OF KONG \$7.99



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Armed with his huge spiked tusks and horrid scales and talons, Varan claws his way up from the world below! 200' reel. #2211 VARAN THE UNBELIEVABLE \$7.99



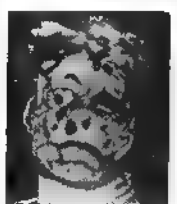
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Strange howlings in the church cemetery bring the startled townspeople to the scene of a murder... and the only clues are wolf tracks! 200' reel. #2213 THE WEREWOLF \$7.99



SON OF FRANKENSTEIN

Bela Lugosi & Basil Rathbone are featured in one of many masterful sequels to the original fright classic! A must! 200' reel. #2215 SON OF FRANKENSTEIN \$7.99



I WAS A TEENAGE FRANKENSTEIN

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Tim Holt as the one man who braves the onslaught of terror created by a beast from the earth's core! 200' reel. #2274 MONSTER THAT CHALLENGED THE WORLD \$7.99



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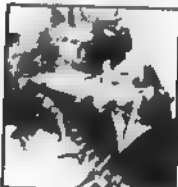
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Godzilla battles Mothra, the giant moth. Mothra, a mother, protects her two huge eggs which hatch into 2 huge caterpillars! 200' reel. #2278 GODZILLA VS THE THING \$7.99



FRANKENSTEIN MEETS THE SPACE MONSTER

An astro-robot created by an American scientist suffers mechanical damage and becomes Frankenstein-like! 200' reel. #2280 FRANKENSTEIN VS. THE SPACE MONSTER \$7.99



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GHIDRAH! The monstrous prehistoric beast with 3 heads! Brought to life by atomic testing, to teach mankind a terrible lesson about goin' fission! 200' reel. #2281 GHIDRAH! \$7.99



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The great 3-headed beast battles titanicly with other super-sized monsters & Toho horrors! 200' reel. #2282 BATTLES OF GHIDRAH! \$7.99



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A hardhat discovers a Cave Man, a Brontosaurus and a Tyrannosaurus Rex!! & they live to tell about him! 200' reel. #2283 DINOSAURS! \$7.99 IN SUPER-8 ONLY!



MASTER OF TERROR

What is the secret formula that Robert Lansing, a scientist, uses on himself in a fit of jealousy? 200' reel. #2284 MASTER OF TERROR \$7.99 IN SUPER-8 ONLY!



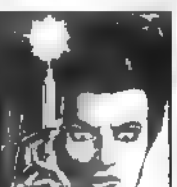
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Steve McQueen's greatest sci-fi horror pix about a gobbling, bobbling BLOB of hungry interstellar jelly! 200' reel. #2285 THE BLOB! \$7.99 SUPER-8 ONLY!



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Overwhelming spectacle of American Rocketmen battling hordes of nuclear-armed invaders from The Moon! Tumblerous! 200' reel. #2286 RADARMEN FROM MOON \$7.99 SUPER-8 ONLY!



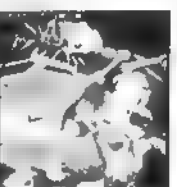
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A beautiful spy from an Asiatic Land uses latest electronic devices to destroy people & steal Atomic Secrets! 200' reel. #2287 THE BLACK WIDOW \$7.99 SUPER-8 ONLY!



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On a Mysterious Isle an evil man uses Atomic Energy to transform himself into a pirate of 200 years ago! 200' reel. #2288 CAPT. MEPHISTO'S TRANSFORMATION MACHINE! \$7.99 SUPER-8 ONLY!



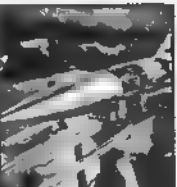
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A warped scientist creates huge Claw Monsters to guard his African diamond mine! 200' reel. #2290 THE CLAW MONSTERS \$7.99 SUPER-8 ONLY!



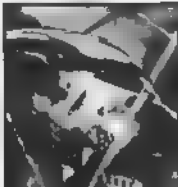
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Edgar Allen Poe stories of horror beyond human belief! The Old Master's soul corrodes this film! 200' reel. #2291 MASTER OF HORROR \$7.99 SUPER-8 ONLY!



WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE

A strange planet appears in Earth's telescopes, and it's going crash smack into planet Earth! 200' reel. #22014 WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE \$7.99 SUPER-8 ONLY!



WAR OF THE WORLDS

H G Wells's classic story helmspanned this classic sci-fi terror opus of Martian invasion! 200' reel. #22015 WAR OF THE WORLDS \$7.99 SUPER-8 ONLY!

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DRACULA KITE

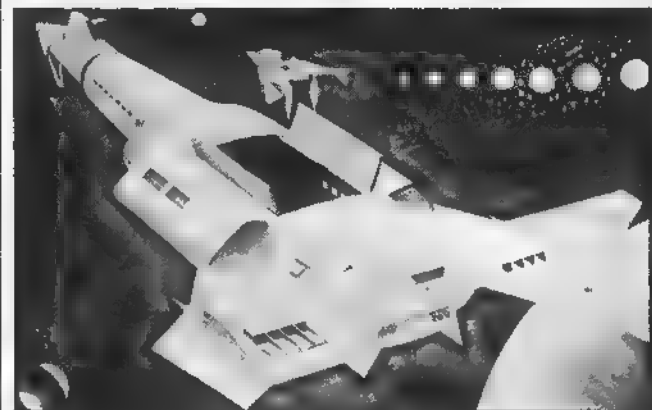
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Giant 54" Wing Span!**

Dracula is alive and well in the form of an incredible plastic kite. Send your King of the Vampires soaring amidst the flimsy, paper kites of your friends, and watch him shine! The ominous, black sky-rider will make all other kites seem anemic. Made of sturdy, Para Vane plastic, the infamous Count will make you the talk of your town. And he is specially constructed for easy launching, and smooth, majestic flight. And he's larger than most kites: his wing span alone is nearly five feet in length! Fly him on the beach... scare bathers to death! Or let him soar in your backyard or local playground. Great outdoor fun for all ages! #2660 \$2.25



U.F.O. HOBBY KIT

GLOWS IN THE DARK



Here's an incredible plastic model that glows in the dark! From "somewhere out there" it comes, a luminescent spaceship of alien invaders. This magnificent hobby kit is a big thirteen inches long when assembled. It comes complete with a display stand, and carries a miniature scout ship in its launch deck. Additionally, the doors to the launch deck open so that the mini spaceship can be removed. Extremely detailed, each and every highlight stands out when you turn off the lights. Assemble an entire fleet of ships! #2492/\$3.00

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PLUS TWO TYPES CREEPY & EERIE BUDGET MASKS VINYL & RUBBER



UNCLE CREEPY DELUXE MASK

Specially made by Don Post! Finely executed with Creepish Craftsmanship to look just like our old Ugly Unc! High quality latex rubber and a ghastly, ghostly and realistic thatch of pale hair to top him off! A Morbid Masterwork! Order #2544 UNCLE CREEPY DELUXE MASK \$14.95



COUSIN EERIE DELUXE MASK

Heavy, durable, whole-headed mask of our half-wit fiend! COUSIN EERIE is Scarily Sculpted in high quality latex rubber, with some hellishly red and realistic hair atop his hand-painted face! A Clammy Classic! Order #2545 COUSIN EERIE DELUXE MASK \$14.95



BOTH BUDGET MASKS CAST FROM SAME MOLD! ONLY ONE IS VINYL, ONE IS RUBBER!

Both the vinyl & the rubber Budget masks, represented above, look alike, but the vinyl is sturdier, more heavy-duty. Both these makes of mask cover the entire head, too. Each is a bargain! You'll probably want all six: Deluxe, Vinyl & Rubber, to hold super CREEPY & EERIE parties!

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HERE ARE 3 FABULOUS SETS OF CREEPY-EERIE MASKS!

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36" by 24" (3 feet by two feet) black & white poster of Phandom's Pulchritudinous Princess HEIDI SAHA! Now you can pin her to the wall, in one of her prize-winning costumes as Jungle Queen! Heidi is the greatest blessing that ever happened to the Comics, Science Fiction and Monster Fan-doms, as at Comic Art Monster & Sci-F Fan Conventions goers will attest! We'll RUSH your giant HEIDI POSTER Right Away! Order #2947 HEIDI POSTER \$1.50

HEIDI BOOK



HEIDI SAHA is so well known and adored in Fantasy Fandom circles that we decided to put a book on her and some of her more famous friends like Arthur C. Clarke, Phil Seuling, Jim Warren and Star Trek's creator Gene Roddenberry to name a few! In this lavishly-printed 36-page slick paper prestige book is also very groovy and informative data on this very groovy fan, and pictures galore (particularly of all of her prize-winning stunning costumes at Comic & Sci-F conventions! This is a REAL FAN-Zine! 2-color cover, too, and copy by our own Forrest J Ackerman! Order #21059 HEIDI BOOK \$2.00

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You won't want to miss a single episode of this classic Batman serial. Zombie men! Strange rays! Death-defying feats and mind-boggling traps! Each chapter is a cliff-hanger more gripping than the last! And now you can get all six films for the special rate of \$45.95! Don't miss out on this incredible offer. Send for the Batman... today!

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

SENSATIONAL PIN UP POSTERS FOR SALE

If your appetite runs to GIANT SUPER PIN-UP POSTERS, then these are your Meat! For a Main Course, try the Gigantic FRANKENSTEIN MONSTER POSTER at left, drawn as only the great Jack Davis can. This 6-foot beauty is yours for a mere \$1.50! And what an array of other tidbits to choose from! TV PERSONALITIES! SUPER HEROES! MONSTERS! GODDESSES! All other Posters are 3-1/2 by 2-1/2 feet in size, printed on heavy quality paper and many are in Full Color.

GIANT LIFE SIZE FRANKENSTEIN PIN-UP

DRAWN BY

Jack Davis



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A gigantic, unbelievable wash drawing of the FRANKENSTEIN MONSTER, OVER 6 FEET TALL by America's greatest cartoonist-artist Jack Davis. A masterpiece of reproduction that will startle anyone who sees it! Have your picture taken alongside your favorite ghoul, tape it to the inside of your bedroom or den door, put it between someone's bed sheets, or just pin it on the wall. A million dollars worth of value for a low price.

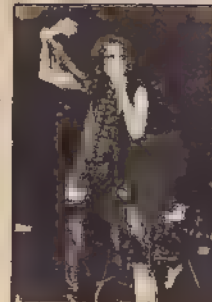
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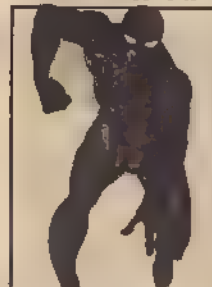
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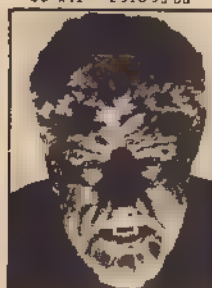
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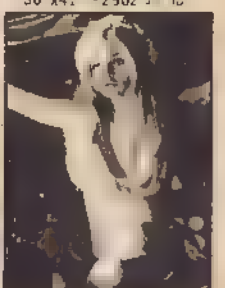
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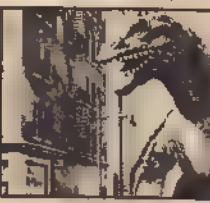
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SCI-FI HOME MOVIES

AVAILABLE IN REG 8 AND SUPER 8! 200' REELS!

Here is a random sampling of some of the strangest science fiction films of all-time. **THE THING** comes from another world, while **TROG** is a prehistoric man who comes from another time! Based on the Ray Bradbury story, **IT CAME FROM OUTER SPACE** is an alien who crash-lands on earth and doesn't want to stay! **THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING MAN** can't stop getting smaller, while the lead in **WAR OF THE COLOSSAL BEAST** can't stop getting bigger! And finally, there are the invaders who attack earth beginning a **WAR OF THE PLANETS**! Details below!

INCREDIBLE SHRINKING MAN



After passing through a weird mist, star Grant Williams begins to shrink. Finally, he can no longer walk amongst men, and lives in his cellar. There, he battles a now-giant cat, a monster tarantula, and a rain storm, in which he nearly drowns. Finally, he shrinks to atomic size! What strange new worlds will he discover? #2236/\$7.99

TROG



Scientist Joan Crawford discovers the inanimate body of a prehistoric caveman, and brings him back to life in her sinister laboratory. After one million years of hibernation, how will the reanimated Neanderthal react? And what unearthly secret does the scientist learn about prehistoric earth? An incredible film. #2262/\$7.99

THE THING



One of the great sci-fi classics. James Arness plays the Thing, a blood-lusting vegetable man from another planet. And he arrives at an Arctic outpost to pave the way for an invasion of fellow vampires. Thus, it's a battle of wits between the monster and the isolated inhabitants of the small army outpost. Who will win? #2263/\$7.99

IT CAME FROM OUTER SPACE



Ray Bradbury's classic sci-fi tale becomes an incredible motion picture. An alien crashes on earth, and enslaves earth people in order to repair his ship. All goes well until one man discovers the alien and confronts the strange being. The fact of the Xenomorph is frightening! Thrills aplenty! #2233/\$7.99

WAR OF THE PLANETS



Two earth scientists are kidnapped and brought to the planet Metaltuna, a world at war with another planet. The scientists are asked to help the Metaltunians, and find themselves in the midst of one of the most incredible battles in the history of the universe. And things get worse when the world of Metaltuna starts to crack under a barrage! #2235/\$7.99

WAR OF THE COLOSSAL BEAST



After being exposed to the rays of the world's first Plutonium bomb-blast, Col. Langan begins to grow at the rate of 10' per day. And, when he reaches 100', he goes on a destructive tour of Los Angeles. Bullets only annoy him; and, with his man's cunning, there is no way to destroy him. Can he be stopped? Is this the end of civilization? #2232/\$7.99

RARE! MONSTER TAPE RECORDINGS

Return with us now to the days when classic radio horror dominated the airwaves. A time of creaking doors... and unseen terrors. Relive the Suspense radio program in this exciting four-hour long set of tape cassettes featuring actual recordings of old radio programs. And starring in these vintage broadcasts are talents such as Orson Wells, Robert Taylor, and Vincent Price. The entire set sells for \$19.95... expensive, but well worth the price. Available in limited edition, so order today! #2342



THE BIRDS and THREE SKELETON QUAY

THE BIRDS, Starring John Dehner & **THREE SKELETON QUAY**, Starring Vincent Price, is a superb double-bill in our monster radio-gallery. **THE BIRDS** is a half-hour retelling of the classic short story that became the basis for the Alfred Hitchcock film. And it is the story of a man trapped in an English countryside home by an ever-growing flock of deadly killer-birds. **THREE SKELETON QUAY** relates a tale of rats, tens of thousands of the fanged creatures. The setting is a lighthouse manned by three keepers... men who watch in horror as the furry devils swarm onto their island from the sea. And once on the small quay, the creatures climb up the light shaft in search of... meat! This is a story of intense suspense that builds to an unforgettable climax. Vincent Price stars in this program from the thirties. Can man survive this incredibly diabolical onslaught of the beasts, bird and rat? Enough to make you lose faith in nature!

DRACULA

DRACULA. Starring Orson Wells, is a true masterpiece. This is the feature presentation of an old-time radio broadcast... Bram Stoker's original (and timeless) vampire classic **DRACULA**. And starring in this hour-long tape recording is one of the great actors of all-time, the immortal Orson Welles. Welles has always had a proclivity towards the unique and bizarre. His **WAR OF THE WORLDS** program, aired some years after this recording was made, scared the daylight out of millions of Americans; and **DRACULA** is no less frightening. Welles himself portrays the blood-thirsting Count. His performance is amazing; Welles' understanding of the tortured soul of Dracula adds a dimension to the character that has been unrealized by other monster actors. Accompanying Welles in this extravaganza are the unmatched talents of his Mercury Theatre. This was a company of actors who went to work with Welles in **WAR OF THE WORLDS** and the motion picture **CITIZEN KANE**. As for this recording, it recounts the tale of Jonathan Harker who, hired by Dracula to work in his castle, journeys to Transylvania and is there transformed, by the Count, into one of the Undead. It then falls upon Dr. Van Helsing, a friend of the young man, to track down the dread demon Dracula and destroy him. But there are many impediments... such as the vampire's Herculean strength... not to mention his seductive female-vampire accomplices. The scene wherein Dracula summons forth these, and other children of the night, has to be heard to be believed. Simply awesome!



THE LIFEBOAT MUTINY and THE HOUSE IN CYPRESS CANYON

THE LIFEBOAT MUTINY is a much over-looked, highly original science fiction tale about a computer. But not your ordinary computer: This one was built by a race of lizard monsters called the Dromes. And the computer was to be used against the barbarian Huggenns, creatures living on another planet. But the alien races have since died off... and the computer, deadly as ever, with its alien mentality, lives on. **HOUSE IN CYPRESS CANYON**, starring Robert Taylor, is considered the greatest single moment of horror in radio history. From the mid-forties, this terror-tale tells of a house in suburban Los Angeles... a house in whose closet lurks the most unimaginable monster of all-time. And it's set during the Christmas season, a time that makes the horror even more severe. Both stories are a half-hour of suspense!

DONOVAN'S BRAIN

DONOVAN'S BRAIN, Starring Orson Welles, recreates the strange and classic tale of a ruthless financier who stops at nothing to get what he wants. And when he dies, he has his brain kept alive in a tank... from which point he directs thought waves, thus controlling people's minds. Originally a novel by Curt Siodmak, and later a film of the same name, this exciting science fiction tale features Orson Welles as Donovan, with the all-star Mercury cast behind him. As with **DRACULA**, this is one of the few shows in the history of the Suspense radio program that was honored with a full hour of air time. A gripping broadcast!

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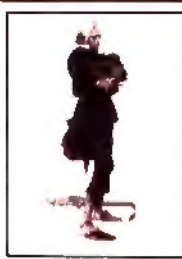
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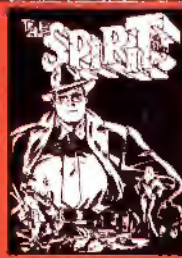
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